

THE TIMES



35P

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FRIDAY DECEMBER 20 1996

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THE OX, THE ASS AND THE CROCODILE

Paul Heiney on how animals got in on the nativity act WEEKEND

Two Britons among 484 hostages

SAS flies in to join siege of embassy

BY GABRIELLA GAMINI IN LIMA, DAVID ADAMS AND MICHAEL EVANS

An SAS team arrived in Lima to link up with American security experts in the Peruvian capital, as the 484 hostages inside the Japanese Ambassador's residence settled in for a third night with their 30 heavily-armed captors.

The six SAS men were sent as advisers to John Illman, the British Ambassador, but their expertise could be used in the event of a decision to storm the besieged residence.

The Peruvian authorities were consulted about the SAS involvement, although there was apparently no specific request for assistance from the Lima Government. The team from the SAS headquarters in Hereford includes experts in the use of explosives and a sniper team commander.

Several experienced hostage negotiators from Scotland Yard also arrived in Lima, as a number of countries offered assistance to help bring the siege to a peaceful conclusion.

The United States is understood to have sent a team from its Delta Force special forces unit which is modelled on the SAS.

The US Embassy in Lima set up a special hostage crisis centre manned by FBI agents. A small number of Americans are among the captives inside the Japanese residence. Only by a stroke of good luck did Peru's President Fujimori avoid becoming a hostage himself in the well-planned guerrilla assault. Senior Fujimori had been due to attend Tuesday's reception but was late returning from a trip to the provinces.

Army troops and police surrounded the compound yesterday, which is located behind a 15ft concrete wall topped by a 10ft electric fence. Police sharpshooters patrolled nearby roofs.

Negotiations moved slowly. The talks so far have been sporadic and there have been uneasy radio communications between an edgy-sounding rebel leader who calls himself "Comandante" Evaristo, and an equally nervous Peruvian Education Minister, Domingo Palermo.

The hostages, who include 12 ambassadors, complained of tension and overcrowding, although the Red Cross was allowed to deliver food and medical supplies to the besieged residence.

Marc Cortal, an International Red Cross doctor who was allowed inside the compound, said the hostages appeared calm and healthy despite the threat from the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement rebels to begin executing them "one by one".

Mediation efforts between the Peruvian Government and the guerrillas were being assisted by the International Red Cross. Anthony Vincent, the Canadian Ambassador, who was one of five diplomats released by the guerrillas on Wednesday, also re-entered the residence yesterday to pass on messages.

The Peruvian Cabinet met in emergency session for the second time in two days, and a top-level delegation from Japan, led by Yukiofumi Ikeda, the Foreign Minister, arrived in

Lima to join in discussions. The hostages were reported to be crammed into two halls on the first and second floors of the large embassy residence with very little water and food.

Among those still held captive are high-ranking diplomats, Japanese businessmen and top Peruvian security officials. Two Britons are also being held — Roger Church, deputy chief of mission of the British Embassy, and David Griffiths, a businessman.

The Tupac Amaru guerrillas want 400 of their members — including Victor Polay, their leader — released from various prisons in Peru.

They also want the release of Lori Berenson, a 27-year-old New Yorker who was last year sentenced to life imprisonment for taking part in a foiled attempt by the Tupac Amaru to storm the congress in Lima.

In addition, they have called on Señor Fujimori to reverse his liberal economic reforms and ban all foreign investors from Peru, and they are demanding money and safe passage to the Amazonian jungle in eastern Peru.

Heribert Woelke, the German Ambassador who was also freed on Wednesday, said the rebels seemed "calm but very determined".

The rebels infiltrated the party dressed as waiters, carrying champagne and hors d'oeuvres. They set off explosions and exchanged gunfire with police for almost an hour. Two hostages and a rebel were reported wounded.

Proven winners, page 11



Snipers watch the Japanese embassy compound in Lima where the hostages spent their second night

Greer's lobby company to be wound up

THE lobbying company at the centre of the cash-for-questions controversy is going into voluntary liquidation (Andrew Pierce writes).

Ian Greer Associates, once one of the most powerful companies in the political lobbying industry, is expected to be wound up next month.

Keith Goodman, a partner in Leonard Curtis accountants, is investigating the collapse of the business, which at one stage enjoyed a £3 million annual turnover.

Mr Greer and Neil Hamilton, the Tory MP, issued libel proceedings against The Guardian over the cash-for-questions allegations. But they withdrew days before the case was due to go ahead in October.

Bhutto's husband charged with her brother's murder

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN KARACHI

THE husband of Pakistan's deposed Prime Minister, Benazir Bhutto, has been charged with the murder of her brother, Murtaza.

The move is a serious blow for Miss Bhutto, six weeks before a parliamentary poll that is likely to decide her political future. Asif Ali Zardari was arrested on November 5 after his wife was dismissed and her Government dissolved by President Leghari on charges of corruption and misrule.

Sindh High Court Bench earlier yesterday had decided Mr Zardari's preventive detention illegal and ordered his release. But before he was freed, he was served with a warrant on the murder charge.

Miss Bhutto has accused the caretaker Government of conspiring to keep her out of power.



Duke says sorry for gun remarks

The Duke of Edinburgh has apologised for his criticism of government plans to ban handguns.

But families of the victims of the Dunblane massacre demanded that the Duke retract the remarks. Tony Blair, the Labour leader, yesterday joined the criticism of the Duke's comments — Page 2 Letters, page 17

Death on film

The BBC is considering filming the last moments of a terminally ill man or woman as part of a series of seven programmes charting human life. MPs yesterday described the idea as "macabre" and "beyond belief" — Page 5

Good forecasts

Anatole Kalinsky's economic predictions for 1996 on currencies, stockmarkets, the housing market and the "feel-good" factor have proved remarkably accurate. Page 25

Apologetic BBC restores Carey's new year TV slot

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC was yesterday forced to restore the Archbishop of Canterbury's new year message to its traditional midnight slot after a personal protest by Dr George Carey.

Flicking through his Christmas edition of Radio Times, Dr Carey was dismayed to discover his five-minute message had been put back one hour in the schedules to make way for New Year celebrations from Scotland. Instead, he found himself squeezed in before the start of a *Carry On* film.

He immediately telephoned to protest that the BBC was marginalising religion. After hastily convened meetings yesterday the corporation was forced within hours into an embarrassing climbdown and issued an apology.

Last night, in spite of the *Radio Times* listing which puts *Happy New Year* at 1am on New Year's Day, Dr Carey was assured that his message will go out as usual a few minutes after Big Ben's midnight peals. But next year, the BBC insisted, the Archbishop will have to endure the later slot to allow a "seamless" transmission of the secular new year shows.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has broadcast a new year message from Lambeth Palace since 1987, when it began with the then-incumbent, Dr Robert Runcie. It is recorded on December 30, after the Archbishop returns to Lambeth from his traditional Christmas holiday at the palace at Canterbury.

A spokeswoman for the Archbishop said yesterday:

"The Archbishop values the opportunity to share some spiritual reflections with the country at a particularly significant moment at the start of the new year. We have reason to believe that many people appreciate this tradition and are pleased that the BBC shares that view."

A BBC spokesman said:

"We made a mistake in not

ensuring that there was a full

explanation of the reasons for

moving the Archbishop's

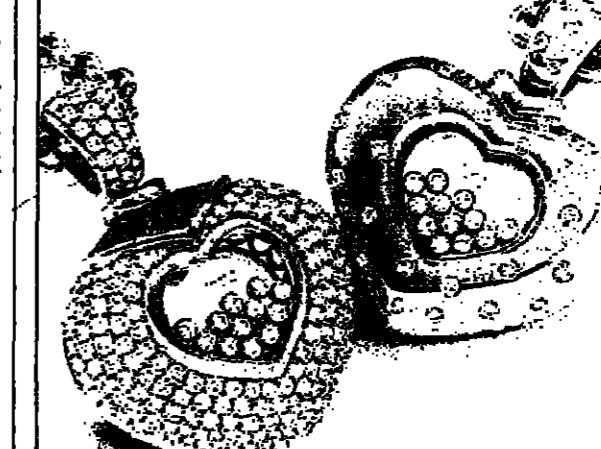
message to 1am. We are now

restoring the message to its

traditional placing at 12.05,

between *The End of the Year Show* and *Hogmanay Live*.

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Cabinet keeps currency debate alive

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

A WEIGHTY alliance of ministers yesterday forced Kenneth Clarke to keep open the Cabinet discussion on the single currency in the run-up to the general election.

Senior ministers last night voiced hopes that the Government would take a deeply sceptical line on the prospects of Britain joining monetary union in the next Parliament after the Chancellor's attempt to end debate on the issue failed.

After a tense meeting at which economic and monetary union was discussed for 90 minutes, with apparently all members of the Cabinet contributing, Mr Clarke was

told to produce a new paper setting out the basis by which the Government would judge whether other countries, as well as Britain, had fulfilled the criteria for joining a single currency.

The idea was proposed by John Major as he summed up the unusually lengthy discussion in which all ministers said the paramount aim was to find a stance around which the party could unite and score points off Labour. The paper will be brought forward in late January or February.

Last night it was clear that several senior ministers — far more than just the hardline Euro-sceptics — were hoping that the paper would provide an escape route by which the Government could suggest that the prospects of a soundly based single currency were slim, and that therefore the likelihood of Britain signing up was extremely small.

The Cabinet endorsed the wait-and-see policy of staying

in the single currency negotiations to obtain the best outcome for Britain. Even the sceptics now accept that it will be impossible for the Prime Minister or Mr Clarke to budge from it. But they believe that the options-open stance does not preclude the Government from making a strong

declaration nearer the election that it would be unlikely that Britain could enter a single currency in the following five years. A Cabinet source told *The Times*: "There is movement here. This issue remains alive."

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary; Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary; Michael Howard, the Home Secretary; and Lord Cranborne, leader of the Lords, were the leading opponents yesterday of Mr Clarke's attempt to resolve the issue. He had brought forward a Treasury paper, commissioned two weeks ago at Mr Howard's suggestion, which concluded that it would not be possible to judge whether

countries were fudging the entry criteria until early 1998.

Mr Howard and others had hoped that the Treasury might conclude that there had already been so much fudging that the Government could say that the chances of Britain wanting to join such a doubtfully based enterprise were slender.

Mr Clarke's decision to rush forward the document upset his colleagues, some of whom felt he was trying to bounce them into closing the debate.

Mr Clarke was reported last night to be happy with the Cabinet's decision to ask for a new paper. He was also said to accept that party unity was an overriding aim in the discussions.

DAVE JONES/PA

Duke apologises for distress caused by gun comments

By JILL SHERMAN AND SHIRLEY ENGLISH



The Duke has failed to pacify his critics

THE Duke of Edinburgh apologised yesterday for his outspoken criticism of government plans to ban handguns.

His remarks in a radio interview were condemned as outrageous and insensitive by parents of children killed in the Dunblane massacre. But Buckingham Palace said that Prince Philip had not intended to cause offence or distress and was sorry if he had done so.

Families of the Dunblane children refused to accept the apology and demanded that the Duke retract the original remarks made on Radio 5 Live's *Inside Edge* programme.

The apology followed widespread criticism of Prince Philip after he suggested that members of shooting clubs were no more dangerous than cricketers or tennis players.

Tony Blair, the Labour leader, said that the Duke's comparison of handguns with cricket bats was "not a wise analogy". He said that the Duke was entitled to his views but Labour, which is pressing for a ban on all handguns, held a different position.

George Robertson, Shadow Scottish Secretary, was less diplomatic. "The views of one elderly aristocrat, based on a completely crazy view on a comparison between a cricket bat and rapid-fire handgun, is not going to deflect Parliament."

Mr Robertson welcomed the apology but said the comments had "damaged the credibility of Prince Philip enormously and I think these remarks are going to be counter-productive. It's the views of an eccentric individual."

very much focused in the area of how difficult it is to apply the law sensibly in these difficult situations," the Palace statement said. "Prince Philip made absolutely clear in the interview his horror at the Dunblane incident and his sympathy for the bereaved."

The Duke's controversial comments were recorded for an interview broadcast last night. He said in the interview: "There's no evidence that people who use weapons for sport are any more dangerous than people who use golf clubs or tennis racquets or cricket bats."

"If a cricketer, for instance, suddenly decided to go into a school and batter a lot of people to death with a cricket bat, which he could do very easily, I mean are you going to ban cricket bats?"

But John McLaren, 62, whose granddaughter, Megan Turner, was murdered at Dunblane, said the apology did not go far enough. "It was totally insensitive and shows he is a man with no feeling for the situation."

David Scott, whose daughter, Hannah, also died in the massacre, said: "He clearly has no understanding of the carnage that went on in that gymnasium."

□ A Labour Party political broadcast that featured a message being spelt out in gunfire did not breach standards of taste and decency, the Independent Television Commission has ruled. It said:

"Whilst sorry to learn of the distaste, the ITCC did not consider that a link with Dunblane would have been inferred by most viewers."

ual, putting forward an argument that doesn't hold water."

But the Duke's remarks attracted strong support from some quarters yesterday. A poll for Radio 5 Live showed that 68 per cent agreed with his comments while 32 per cent disagreed. He also won support from 75 per cent of viewers phoning GMTV's telephone hotline.

During a visit to Ely Cathedral yesterday, Prince Philip declined to comment on his remarks. But Buckingham Palace had sought to calm the row by emphasising that the remarks were made in the course of a wide-ranging interview about sport.

Prince Philip had no intention whatsoever of causing offence or distress to anyone and he is sorry if he has done so. His personal views were



Jean Dennis: judge praised her devotion and efficiency in caring for husband

Payout for man in coma since ambulance strike

By A STAFF REPORTER

A MAN left in a permanent coma after an ill-equipped army crew answered an emergency call during the ambulance strike of 1989 has finally been awarded compensation of £750,000. With only a bit of basic resuscitation, John Dennis, now 47, would probably have "walked off the stretcher" after a minor heart attack, his solicitor said.

Mr Dennis's wife, Jean, said that her emergency call on December 17, 1989, was answered by two soldiers in an army ambulance, who did not appear to know what to do, were ill-equipped and needed directions from the couple's home in Edgwick, Coventry, to the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital.

The journey should have taken two or three minutes, but a wrong turn added a four or five minutes to the trip and, by the time Mr Dennis arrived at the hospital, he had suffered irreparable brain damage.

Mrs Dennis, 46, now living in Bedworth, has since cared for her husband at home. Mr Justice McCullough praised her dedication yesterday, saying: "The blend of devotion

had been due to go to the High Court in Birmingham earlier this month, but the defendants admitted general liability in November, allowing a compensation claim to be made.

The money will be administered by the court, effectively holding it in trust for the rest of Mr Dennis's life.

After the hearing, Mrs Dennis said: "I am extremely relieved. A settlement will continue to enable me to look after my husband at home." She added: "It should not take so long — it is seven years since I first considered legal action. All the time you have not only got to look after your loved ones, but wonder how you are going to cope."

The couple were married in 1972 in Northern Ireland when Mr Dennis was an infantryman and his wife a military police woman. At the time of his heart attack he was an assembly line worker at the Land Rover plant in Solihull.

John Davis, the couple's solicitor, said: "If the people who had attended to him had been properly trained, had the right equipment and had not got lost, there's every likelihood he would have ended up no worse off for the episode."



John Dennis: he was awarded £750,000

and efficiency shines through every report. I do not remember a case in which praise has been put to the carer in quite such glowing terms."

He agreed that the couple should be advanced £150,000 so that they could buy a bungalow and make the necessary modifications for Mr Dennis.

He made the award against NHS Litigation, which took over from the original defendants, the West Midlands Health Authority and the Ministry of Defence. The case

Second fire breaks out in Channel Tunnel

Eurotunnel's attempt to rebuild public confidence in the safety of the Channel Tunnel received a setback yesterday when a fire broke out on board a Le Shuttle passenger train. The fire, almost exactly a month after the blaze that injured 14 people and closed the tunnel for 15 days, started in electrical wiring on an empty shuttle train early yesterday morning.

The train was standing at the Folkestone terminal close to the tunnel entrance. It was being used as an evacuation stand-by train in case of an emergency. A spokeswoman for Eurotunnel said the "small fire" was put out within 13 minutes by Kent Fire Brigade. "No one was injured and nothing was damaged. The limited service we are running was not disrupted and we are investigating," she said.

Alone at the top

John Major has become Radio 4's Man of the Year by being the only man on the shortlist of six for the Today programme Personality of the Year. Voting was cut from four to three hours to limit any organised telephoning for the finalists. Tony Blair was disqualified after an attempt to rig the vote in his favour was discovered. A memo was sent to Labour supporters canvassing support. The Personality of the Year will be announced on Boxing Day.

Minister to stand down

THE Trade Minister, Anthony Nelson, is to stand down at the next election for "family and personal" reasons. Mr Nelson, 48, MP for Chichester since 1974, is the 61st Conservative to announce retirement from the Commons. He has a majority of 20,887 but his wife is suffering from a serious illness. His resignation means that, with Kensington and Chelsea, two of the safest seats in the country are up for grabs.

Leading article, page 17

Troops head for Bosnia

A British force of 5,000 soldiers, equipped with Warrior armoured vehicles and heavy artillery, will today begin an 18-month tour of duty in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Codenamed Lodenstar, the operation will be the third carried out by British troops since Britain became involved in Bosnia in 1992. The new contingent will be serving with the Nato-led Stabilisation Force, which takes over officially from Nato's Implementation Force this morning.

Prescott libel damages

John Prescott yesterday accepted undisclosed libel damages over a newspaper article that said he accepted a free flight to the United States organised by the political lobbyist Ian Greer. Mr Prescott's QC, Arthur Davidson, told Mr Justice French at the High Court that Mr Prescott had never accepted a flight or any other gift from Mr Greer. The report appeared in *The Daily Telegraph*, which was represented in court to retract the allegations.

Bouncers set to be vetted

Thousands of private security guards and night club bouncers would be vetted under government proposals to rid the industry of criminals. Security guards would be licensed by an independent authority, and it would be an offence to employ an unlicensed guard or to work as one. The proposals are a reversal of the Government's recent position when ministers argued that it would increase the burden of regulation on the industry.

Auditor clears council

A Tory council which pioneered sales of council houses was cleared of running a "homes for votes" policy. However, the district auditor for Wandsworth council in south London found "serious shortcomings and omissions" in the advice members were given before deciding to put properties on the market. Rowland Little said the council misdirected itself in law about the correct way to meet its statutory duties to the homeless.

Brocket Hall relaunched

Brocket Hall, the ancestral home of Lord Brocket, now serving five years in jail for fraud, is to be relaunched as a leading hotel and conference centre. The new owners, Hong Kong-based CCA, which bought the house outside Wheyhill, Hertfordshire, earlier this month for an estimated £29 million for a 60-year lease, plan to create a second 18-hole golf course on the 53-acre estate, and build a health spa, with a gym and pool.

Arts grants cut by 20%

Westminster Council is to cut its grants to arts groups by nearly 20 per cent. English National Opera and the Wigmore Hall, who are likely to be affected, said that their education programmes, the very activities from which Westminster's community most benefits, were likely to suffer first. Westminster councillors will decide on January 29 how the cuts should be made.

Tote bets are on

The Tote is to be allowed to take bets on the winning numbers of the Irish lottery from today, it was announced last night. The Home Office expects the turnover of the Tote to increase by about 2 per cent as a result of gamblers having a flutter on the winning numbers drawn in the Republic's lottery. It brings the Tote into line with other bookmakers.

Sculpture saved by grant

An 18th-century marble sculpture has been saved after an appeal by a museum in Bath. The 1752 work, which represents the goddess Diana and the youth Endymion, is one of the rare surviving sculptures of Giuseppe Piuma, an Italian master who made it after moving to Bath in 1749. The Heritage Memorial Fund gave £247,230 to prevent it leaving the Holburne Museum.

Death toll in food poison outbreak increases to 15

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

THE death toll in the *E. coli* 0157 food poisoning outbreak in Scotland rose to 15, making it the world's second worst on record, after two elderly people died in hospital.

A 76-year-old man, believed to be from New Stevenson, and a 78-year-old woman from Wishaw, North Lanarkshire, died at Monklands hospital, on Wednesday night. The woman, Sarah (Cissie) Cameron, had attended a pensioners' lunch on November 17 at Wishaw Old Parish Church.

Seven people at the meal have died after eating meat pies and gravy supplied by John M. Barr & Son, the Wishaw butcher thought to be

the sole source of the epidemic. Mrs Cameron had been ill since November 21 when the outbreak was first identified. She was admitted to hospital on November 27. The man who died had also eaten meat bought from an outlet supplied by Barr.

A total of 407 people now have symptoms of the bacterium and 250 have been confirmed as having the infection, an increase of 15 on the previous day. Six adults are seriously ill.

Syed Ahmed, the public health consultant leading the outbreak control team, said yesterday that the recent deaths were from the first wave of illnesses. He maintained the epidemic was now

firmer under control with new cases arising at a rate of one or two a day, all of which could be traced to secondary infection from person to person.

"We are confident that we have eliminated the source of the infection," Dr Ahmed said.

Mr Barr's solicitor, George Moore, is to meet with North Lanarkshire environmental health officers on Monday to discuss the results of tests on cooked and pre-prepared meat products taken from his shop.

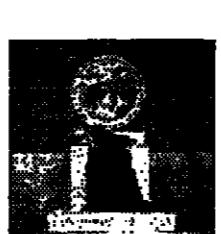
The first of a series of full-page advertisements giving advice on personal hygiene and the dangers of food poisoning over the Christmas and New Year period will begin appearing in Lanarkshire newspapers today.

"Oh, blige!! What can I get for Rob?"



Music From The Motion Picture
"Evita"

"I've heard so many good things about the film I can't wait to see it. Eva's Barry Norman was ravishing about her on the telly; calling her magnificent, I think. I've heard lots of versions of "Don't Cry For Me Argentina" and I'm not sure which I like best. Plus there's a new song which Andrew Lloyd Webber wrote especially for her, called "You Must Love Me" and, of course, "Another Suitcase In Another Hall". Why wait?"



Enya
"The Memory Of Trees"

"Her records are always beautiful. You can put them on and drift off into another world. It's cheaper than a holiday. The consensus is that this one's her best ever. "Remember Me" is a classic. "Memory" is a cult hit in the Daily Express and One. I love "Like nothing else on Earth". Plus it's "Anywhere Is" and the gorgeous "On My Way Home" on it. Lincoln."



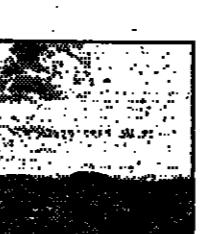
Alanis Morissette
"Jagged Little Pill"

"She's incredible. She was a winner at the Brit Awards and the Grammys and has hardly been out of the charts or off the radio all year. I know all the words to her songs. "You Oughta Know", "brave", "I Think You're Sexy", "I Don't Want To Talk About It", "I'm a Slave 4 U", "Downtown Girl", "Head Over Heels", "All I Really Want", "Hand In Hand" and "One". She really sells it like it's live and good for her. I say, "Definitely."



Rod Stewart
"If We Fall In Love Tonight"

"Rod's singing, love songs like Rod Stewart. What a voice, and he's had some great love songs in the charts, all of which I like. "I'm a Believer", "Neverending Love", "I'm Gonna Be (5-7-9)", "I'm Your Baby Tonight", "I Don't Want To Talk About It", "I'm a Slave 4 U", "Downtown Girl", "Head Over Heels", "All I Really Want", "Hand In Hand" and "One". She really sells it like it's live and good for her. I say, "Definitely."



R.E.M.
"New Adventures in Hi-Fi"

"I got that "Automatic For The People" a couple of years back and everybody said it was their best, but this one's even better. Five stars in Q and a bit of a come-up. I'm gonna need a bit of a winner in the Christmas gift stakes. It includes "Shiny Happy People", "You're in My Heart", "The West Was Won (and Where It Got U)", "Bittersweet Melody" and the instant classic like "When I Need You" to bring it up to date. Lovely. Lovely."

Why did drivers ignore screams of rape victim?

By DANIEL McGROarty

PEOPLE returning home from work and local residents expressed their astonishment and disgust last night that evening rush-hour drivers did not stop to rescue a woman who was beaten and raped on a busy street in Chislehurst, southeast London.

The 36-year-old senior civil servant fought the rapist for almost five minutes under the glare of street lights while motorists idling in a traffic jam ignored her screams for help. The woman was so badly beaten, police say, that there is not an inch of her face that is not cut or bruised. Her cheekbone has been broken and her nose badly swollen.

The woman usually walks the short route home from Chislehurst station with her boyfriend. But on Tuesday night, when she was assaulted, he had to attend a reception.

Women walking their dogs on the Chislehurst cricket ground, where the attack happened, yesterday condemned as cowards those who refused to help her. The attacked woman, who was released from hospital yesterday, told police she was so close to the traffic that she could clearly distinguish the faces of drivers staring at her while she was grappling on wet grass to fight off the slightly built rapist.

Detectives say that scores of motorists in Watts Lane would have seen the woman being punched and then dragged through a thick gorse bush. But despite police appeals for help no one has come forward.

Police last night set up a road block in Watts Lane at the same time as the woman's civil servant was attacked, but they described the reaction from home-coming commuters as "a very poor response".

Mrs Jan Kidd, who lives close to the cricket ground, left work early yesterday to walk

might not have been raped."

The attacked woman told police yesterday how during her ordeal she made a conscious decision to remember every detail about the man, who had threatened that he had a knife and would kill her if she did not stop screaming.

She described him as aged 28-33, white, about 5ft 7in tall, thin, well dressed, clean shaven and well spoken with a London accent. He was wearing an expensive black leather jacket and black trousers and she remembers "he smelt very clean".

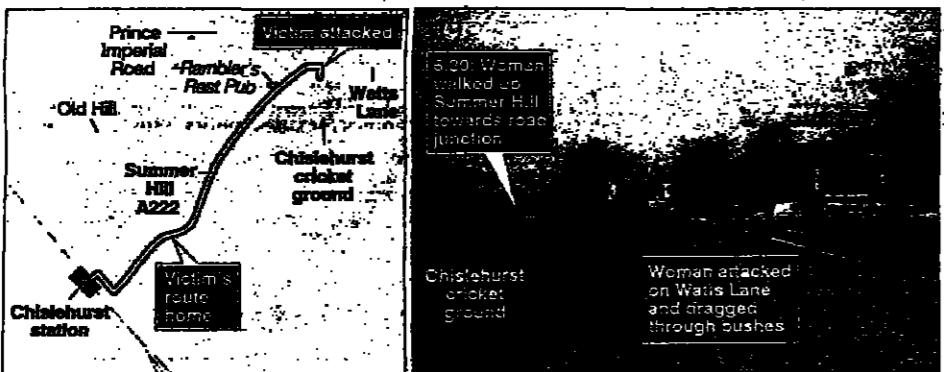
The woman had taken her usual 6.08pm train from Charing Cross to Chislehurst, arriving sat about 6.50. She was ten minutes into her 25-minute walk home carrying two heavy supermarket carrier bags when she felt a man grab her hair and try to steal her shoulder bag.

She turned and stared at him, but he punched her hard in the face three or four times. The woman said they fought and struggled on the pavement for as much as five minutes until the assailant pushed a 3in metal object into her mouth and knocked her to the ground, repeatedly kicking her in the face and body.

He then pulled her through a thick 5ft high gorse hedge, which must have left him with cuts. After raping her he calmly emptied her purse onto the grass and took money and credit cards, repeating his warning that he would stab and kill her if she tried to escape or shout for help.

On the other side of the hedge rush-hour traffic was at a standstill on Watts Lane and cars approaching the mini-roundabout would have had a clear view.

After the attack, the woman flagged down a woman motorist, who drove her to Chislehurst police station. The driver then left and would only give her name as Maureen.



Too busy, too scared or too anxious to get home

By DANIEL McGROarty

YESTERDAY rush-hour motorists were too busy trying to cope with the traffic jam at the mini-roundabout by Chislehurst Cricket Club to pay attention to police hunting the rapist who attacked a civil servant there 48 hours earlier.

Cars converged from five roads into one of south London's most notorious bottlenecks. Staring ahead, drivers ignored the steady procession of homecoming commuters who walked up the steep Summer Hill from Chislehurst station, moving faster than the stalled traffic.

A senior detective said last night: "Chivalry is dead, I'm afraid. The sign of the time is that no one sees, no one hears and no one cares. Everyone

looks the other way because they are too busy or too scared.

They think if they intervene they might get knifed by some madman or end up facing a court summons themselves. But how can so many people driving and walking, ignore a woman being punched and kicked and screaming for five minutes?"

As the victim walked up Summer Hill carrying two heavy supermarket bags, she would have passed the brightly-lit entrances to two private estates of mews houses and detached properties. She would have quickened her step past woodland and glanced down at the Christmas decorations festooning the Rambler's Rest pub before crossing the stationary traffic and heading down Watts Lane.

A senior detective said last night: "Chivalry is dead, I'm afraid. The sign of the time is that no one sees, no one hears and no one cares. Everyone

looks the other way because they are too busy or too scared.

They think if they intervene they might get knifed by some madman or end up facing a court summons themselves. But how can so many people driving and walking, ignore a woman being punched and kicked and screaming for five minutes?"

As the victim walked up Summer Hill carrying two heavy supermarket bags, she would have passed the brightly-lit entrances to two private estates of mews houses and detached properties. She would have quickened her step past woodland and glanced down at the Christmas decorations festooning the Rambler's Rest pub before crossing the stationary traffic and heading down Watts Lane.

Conservative spin doctors bemoan trend of confessional interviews

By ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TORY politicians have been warned against confessional interviews after Tony Blair became the latest political heavyweight to be tripped up by his past. Conservative Central Office could scarcely conceal its glee after Mr Blair's account of the day he played truant on a plane bound for the Bahamas was instantly contradicted by his father.

The Labour leader is the latest in a long line of politicians to try to exploit their family misfortunes only to see the strategy backfire. Only yesterday John Major's attempt to win women voters backfired when his claim in an interview in *Good Housekeeping* that he called his wife "Little Grub", was denied by Mrs Major. "We don't have nicknames for each other. What rubbish," she said.

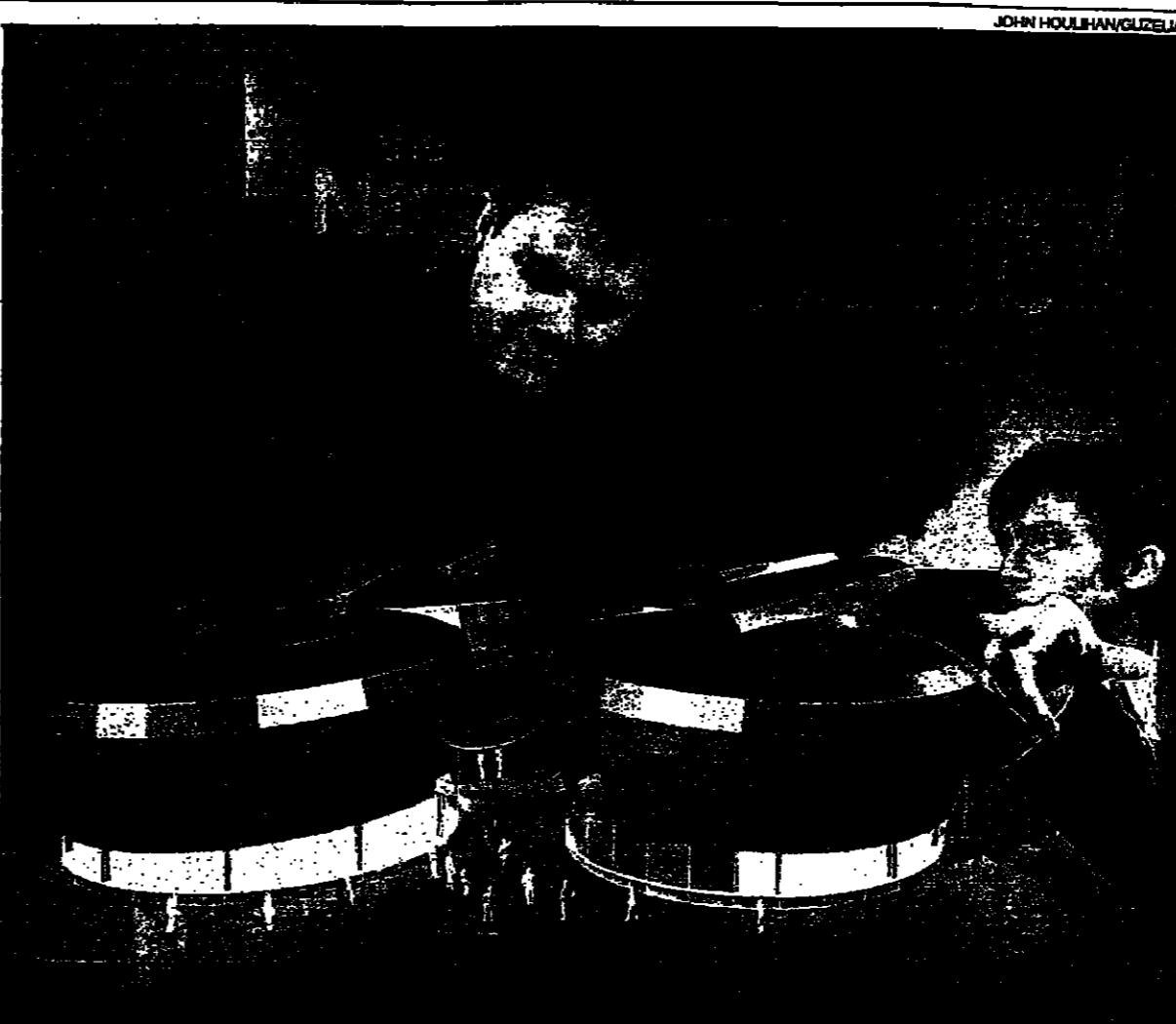
Tory spin doctors have now intervened. Politicians used to be afraid of being embarrassed by the antics of their children. But now the roles have reversed. "We simply cannot have what appear to be nice stories about their domestic life being ripped to shreds by their own relatives the next day," said one. "It makes politicians look silly if they cannot even get their stories squared first with their family. We will not institute formal advice. But when we sit in on future interviews we will steer questions well away from their past. Their answers have an irritating habit of going wrong."

Mr Blair joined in the first time this year with his own poignant anecdotes about the impact of his father's illness on his childhood. Friends believe the success of the speech encouraged him to break his silence on the attempt to flee the terrors of his public school on a charter flight to the Bahamas in 1966.

Leading article, page 17



Norma Major: denied being called Mrs Grub



Nick Banks, left, and Russell Senior, of Pulp, with a model of the building, designed as a pair of drums

It's only rock and roll, but will they really like it in Sheffield?



It might not be on Route 66 but when it comes to rock, Caitlin Moran finds Sheffield does have something to sing about

AT FIRST glance, Sheffield's pedigree as a citadel full of mousies setting the world's front pages alight is slightly limited: Joe Cocker, long-haired heavy metal band Def Leppard and indie's flavour-of-the-month The Longpigs do not a Memphis make.

Manchester has kicked out musical prodigies on a regular basis — New Order, Happy Mondays, The Smiths, Simply Red and the Bee Gees. London is where everyone ends up. And Hay-on-Wye is prettier. I mean, no one ever ran away from home to the glittering lights of Sheffield.

And besides, just how horrible is the idea of a rock museum? Youth's febrile kick isn't meant to be pinned down under glass catharsis cannot be catalogued, and cool isn't something that a

display of old rockers' trousers can adequately convey.

Pop pilgrimages — something that rock museums presumably aspire to cater for — are far too personal for that. The first time I ran away from home for rock'n'roll, me and a friend headed for Aberystwyth, and the beach where the late, unlamented prog rock band Levitation first took acid.

We only got as far as Shrewsbury before the band broke up, and we realised that they were overrated anyway. But there is still

Marc Bolan's tree in Richmond, the Beatles' pub (The Grapes) next to the (Cavern) and Joy Division's Ian Curtis's grave in Manchester for those days when youth just want to have a wallow in pop's sticky-sweet nostalgia. However Sheffield does have some arguments in its favour. It has a secret pop history that deserves to be more widely promoted: there is a strong case to be made for local avant-gardists Cabaret Voltaire having invented the influential Detroit Techno movement. ABC's

Caitlin Moran, page 31

Lottery cash puts pop on the map

By DALYA ALBERG
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

SHEFFIELD won £9.5 million of lottery cash yesterday to create Britain's first National Centre for Popular Music. It intends to blur the boundaries between classical, rock and pop, reminding the world that Mozart arias were hummed in the streets in the 18th century.

The grant from the Arts Council's National Lottery department was announced by Russell Senior and Nick Banks from the Sheffield pop band Pulp.

The centre, which will celebrate music from around the world, will not collect memorabilia. Instead it will rely on loans from private and public collections such as the Radio 1 archive and the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Stuart Rogers, the chief executive, said that he was often asked how he defined pop music: "We hope people will decide that after they leave the centre. We want to broaden what they think is pop. It's wider than anyone appreciates, particularly now, with Pavarotti in Hyde Park doing what the Rolling Stones did 25 years ago."

Tim Strickland, the creative director, said: "We will focus primarily on post-1945. But you can't omit folk and music hall and the popular end of classical and opera."

Future exhibitions will include the changing form of sound systems, with displays of wax cylinders, jukeboxes and digital technology and a history of musical instruments. Educational programmes are planned for schoolchildren.

The overall cost of the centre will be £15 million. From the summer of 1998 the organisers hope to attract 400,000 visitors a year.

Sheffield was one of 67 lottery beneficiaries yesterday. Among others, London Electronic Arts, a cultural centre in Hoxton, east London, received £2.8 million and the regional film theatre at the Cornerhouse, Manchester, won £1.17 million for refurbishments.

Pop, page 31

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Briton petitions Mandela for justice over son's death

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

THE father of a 28-year-old Briton killed by a traffic police officer in a KwaZulu/Natal coastal resort has written to President Mandela to highlight his son's case.

The Bradley family has discovered that the traffic officer allegedly responsible has not been suspended from duty despite being charged with culpable homicide, and the officer investigating the case is said to have been threatened.

John Bradley wrote to ask President Mandela to ensure that justice is done regarding the death of his son Kevin on November 24. Mr Bradley, who flew to South Africa with his wife to identify the body, said he wanted to make higher authorities aware of the case.

Five days before his death, Kevin Bradley had returned to South Africa to make arrangements for his marriage to Antoinette La Grange. The couple, who met seven years ago while working for a hotel and casino group, had set up home in Margate on the region's southern coast and were running a casino there.

On the night of her fiancée's death Miss La Grange had received a call from the casino asking that Kevin go in to help. He was waiting at traffic lights on his motorbike when an official traffic car, travelling fast, hit a stationary car in the next lane then rebounded and hit his motorbike, catapulting him 40 metres through the air. He died about



Antoinette La Grange: fiancée of the dead man

100 miles
TRANSVAAL
Johannesburg
SWAZILAND
ORANGE FREE STATE
NATAL
LESOTHO
CAPE PROVINCE
INDIAN OCEAN

an alcohol level higher than that permitted by law. He was charged with culpable homicide but released on bail of 600 rand. Margate council, his employer since 1993, defended its decision not to suspend him on the ground that this would be tantamount to an admission of guilt.

Investigations by *The Times* have also revealed that Mr du Plessis is facing a charge of intent to cause grievous bodily harm relating to an incident in December last year when he was accused of being involved in beating up four Johannesburg students in Margate.

That case is due in court in February. The pre-trial hearing into Mr Bradley's death is scheduled for January 13.

Simon Bradley, the dead man's brother, said his father had been in contact with his MP, John Butterill (C, Bournemouth W), who had promised to take up the case with the Foreign Office.

A spokesman in President Mandela's office said that the matter would be referred to the Department of Foreign Affairs and on to other departments if necessary.

□ A man has been arrested in connection with the hijacking of two British tourists in the Transkei by a gang posing as police. The tourists were robbed and stripped at the roadside. Timothy Frost and Emma Isherwood also had their car, worth £22,000, taken.



Kevin Bradley, who died after his stationary motorbike was hit at traffic lights

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The Link

Farmers trot out 3m fresh turkeys

BY ELENOR SALMOND

MOST supermarkets start selling their fresh turkeys today and the most popular price, at £2.59 a kilogram, is rather more expensive than last year. Some three million birds will be on sale within the next four days, though ten million households will buy cheaper, frozen birds, despite the verdict of a recent tasting organised by *The Times*, whose panel came out firmly in favour of fresh.

Promotions include:

Asda: garlic king prawns £3.49 for 300g, pork easy-carve leg joint £3.49, tiramisu (12x4 portions) £3.49 for 950g. Budgens: Scottish smoked salmon £6.99 for 400g, Cooks Town large gammon joint, smoked/unsmoked, £4.99 per kg, clementines £1.19 kg. Co-op: frozen North Atlantic prawns £2.79 for 400g, fresh topside or silverside of beef £1.78 lb, frozen roast potatoes £1.39 for 1.36 kg, fresh cream trifles £1.19 for 397g.

Fiancée quizzed

Murder squad detectives were questioning the fiancée of Lee Harvey, 25, who was stabbed to death in an alleged "road rage" incident close to their home in Hereford and Worcester. Police arrested Tracie Andrews, 27, two weeks ago but she was admitted to hospital and they were unable to interview her.

Duchess mourns

The Duchess of York joined her father, Major Ronald Ferguson, and other members of her family at the funeral of her grandmother, Lady Elmhurst, at All Saints Church in Dummer, Hampshire. Lady Elmhurst, who was 88, died last week after a long illness. The Duchess read the lesson at the service.

Taxman case

David Shamoon, 66, a businessman, was cleared of providing a holiday for Michael Alcock, an Inland Revenue inspector, in return for tax favours. Two corruption charges against Mr Alcock, 47, were also dropped. He denies 11 similar charges. The case, at the Old Bailey, was adjourned until January 2.

Serb baby well

Leon Bu, the Serbian baby who has had heart surgery funded by a public appeal, is said to be "doing fine" in hospital. The four-month-old boy had a three-hour operation at the Bristol Royal Hospital for Sick Children to repair two holes in his heart. Nearly £11,000 was raised to pay for his treatment.

Lightning death

A farm worker died instantly when lightning struck his gold necklace. Paul Maroney, 20, was on a tractor trailer in West Auckland when the bolt struck in July. The tractor "jumped" and his shoes were blown off. An inquest jury at Darlington, Co Durham, returned a verdict of accidental death.

Post haste

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Award may set precedent in sport

Footballer wins £1.4m for tackle that ended career

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A FOOTBALLER was awarded an estimated £250,000 damages in the High Court yesterday over an opponent's high tackle which broke his right leg and ended his career.

The award to Brian McCord, a former Stockport County player, is believed to be the first of its kind for injuries suffered on the field and could have a significant impact on all sports.

Mr Justice Ian Kennedy found that the Swansea City captain, John Cornforth, had made an error when challenging McCord for a loose ball during a game in Swansea in March 1993.

After the case Mr McCord, 28, said: "I am delighted with the judgment. I have been on income support since the accident and I was 100 per cent sure taking this action was the right thing to do. I will now be able to repay all the friends who have helped me get by and perhaps buy a few Christmas presents. But I would much rather that my career had been left intact."

The judge said that Mr Cornforth's tackle, in which he slid down on one leg with his right foot over the ball as the two players closed for a 50-50 challenge, was "an error which was inconsistent with his taking reasonable care" towards his opponent.

"But it does not follow that those who play football do not consent to the risk of injury. There are very few professional footballers who assert that they have never fallen below the standards expected of them and if they do they are not to be believed."

Mr McCord, who is studying to become a physiotherapist, was awarded an immediate interim payment of £50,000 and the balance will be decided at a hearing in the New Year. John England, his solicitor, said the judgment was a landmark because there was no system for players to obtain compensation for injuries received during games.

He said: "It is a very important judgment which will have great ramifications throughout all professional sports. I believe it is time for the sporting bodies to devise some system of compensation without redress to the courts."

At a hearing last month, Mr McCord said he was assumed when he saw Mr Cornforth approaching that there would be a block tackle, when two



McCord: career ended by clash which broke his leg

players arrive at the ball at the same time. He added: "I didn't take my eye off the ball and I saw Mr Cornforth approach and as I made contact with the ball my leg was resting above the ball and the next thing I knew I saw my grossly deformed right leg."

Mr McCord, from Chaddesden, Derby, said he had always wanted to be a professional footballer and had made an approach to the club's insurers refused to take responsibility. "We have looked at an arbitration method between players to avoid going to court and at no-fault insurance schemes but neither has proved possible."

Newcastle goes public with £90m stadium

By PAUL WILKINSON



A plan of the proposed new stadium in Leazes Park. The club's existing site, right, will become an arena

PLANS for a controversial £90 million sports complex based on Newcastle United Football Club were unveiled yesterday.

The scheme will be funded from a £160 million stock market flotation, details of which will be announced next month and which will make the Premiership club the largest publicly quoted football business after Manchester United.

Conservatives immediately attacked the plans for a 55,000-seat glass-and-sandstone stadium on greenbelt land close to the existing ground at St James's Park. Both sides accept that the planned development of 50 acres at Castle Leazes and Leazes Park, on the edge of the city centre, will probably result in a public inquiry. Dolly Potter, chairman of Friends of

Leazes Park said: "They are the most important pieces of open space close to the city centre, not just for people living around there but for people working nearby. If they are lost the centre of Newcastle would become a much less attractive area to live and work."

Announcing the project yesterday, Sir John Hall, Newcastle's chairman, said: "We are aware of the concerns of the objectors, but the views of our fans need to be considered too. A lot of fans cannot fit into St James's Park."

Earlier this year Sir John threatened to move the club out of the city if his plans were thwarted by council planners. The project has been contentious ever since Sir John revealed his ideas for expanding the existing 36,500-seat ground to create a sporting club similar to those in Barcelona and Milan. His proposals include a new football stadium, the largest built in England since Wembley, and converting St James's Park into an arena with a 12,000-seat indoor athletics track, ice rink, offices and museum.

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The project has been contentious

La Dolce Vita star 'was perhaps Europe's greatest cinema actor of the past 50 years'

Trevi Fountain switched off as Italy mourns Mastroianni

"I FEEL death at my back," Marcello Mastroianni said in May. "I feel it breathing down my neck." It came for him yesterday in Paris, at the age of 72.

But for the millions of female fans who know him as Il Bel Marcello, he will always be the enduring embodiment of the Latin lover, a smile cracking his handsome features, his clothes elegantly cut, a cigarette dangling nonchalantly from his fingers.

The news dominated Italian television bulletins, with an announcer declaring: "Italy has lost one of its greatest postwar sons." The Trevi Fountain in Rome, where Mastroianni splashed so memorably with the statuesque Anita Ekberg in *La Dolce Vita*, was switched off and covered in black crepe in a mark of national mourning.

He was "perhaps the greatest European cinema actor of the past 50 years", the producer Daniel Toscan du Plantier said in Paris. He will also be

For female fans, the romantic Mastroianni, right, was a cinematic legend who will always be the enduring embodiment of the Latin lover, writes Richard Owen.



eternally linked with the other great Italian cinema legend of the past half-century, Sophia Loren, who epitomises Italian female beauty in the way Mastroianni personified the charm of the Italian male. They starred together in *La Dolce Vita*, Fellini's 1960 masterpiece, and afterwards in numerous other classics, including *Marriage Italian Style*, *The Priest's Wife*, and *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*, in which Loren performed her memorable strip-tease for a stunned and gaping Mastroianni.

that he held the world's most beautiful women in his arms," Signor Biagi said yesterday.

The actress Monica Vitti said that he had been "the sweetest, most lighthearted of actors" and "a great friend".

Mastroianni had a number of affairs and lived for a long period with Catherine Deneuve, by whom he had a daughter, the actress Chiara Mastroianni. Both she and his other daughter Barbara, by his wife Flora, were at his bedside when he died.

Despite his many mistresses, Mastroianni remained married to the long-suffering Flora, and steadfastly refused to speak about "the most intimate things in my life, most secret".

"I know the public thinks of me and Sophia Loren as either married or lovers," he said. "It is true we have gone through life together. But nothing happened between us."

"But the public" still wondered, and in a sense it may not matter. "What matters is

proud of his peasant origins in a mountain village near Rome, and of his tough boyhood.

It was only after the war that acting took over his life. His stage debut in 1948 was alongside Giulietta Masina, the wife of Federico Fellini, who went on to direct Mastroianni — "my alter ego" — not only in *La Dolce Vita* but also *8½* and *Ginger and Fred*.

Mastroianni was still acting on stage this year, in *The Last Moon*, by the Italian playwright Furio Bordon, to rapturous receptions. He celebrated his last birthday in Portugal on the set of *Voyage to the Beginning of the World*, a film by the director Manoel de Oliveira.

"I could have applied myself more, done better," he said. "But I've been very lucky. Perhaps my secret is that I have loved life. Deep down I still feel young — just a kid, really."

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Catherine Deneuve, right, and daughter Chiara after Mastroianni's death yesterday



Ralph Fiennes and Kristin Scott Thomas in *The English Patient*, nominated for seven awards

'English Patient' tops Golden Globe list

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

A FILM about the English at war has won seven nominations for next month's Golden Globe awards, more than any other film.

Among other nominations, *The English Patient*, a drama set in North Africa and Tuscany during the Second World War, has received those for acting for Ralph Fiennes and Kristin Scott Thomas, its British stars. It is also nominated for Best Drama and Best Director.

Other leading films in the build-up to the fifty-fourth Golden Globes, still viewed as a stepping stone to the Oscars despite damaging recent charges of corruption, include *Shine*, *Evita* and *The People vs. Larry Flynt*. *Secrets and Lies*, Mike Leigh's film about

south London life, has won nominations in the Best Drama category. Britons Brenda Blethyn (Best Actress) and Marianne Jean-Baptiste (Best Supporting Actress) are also nominated.

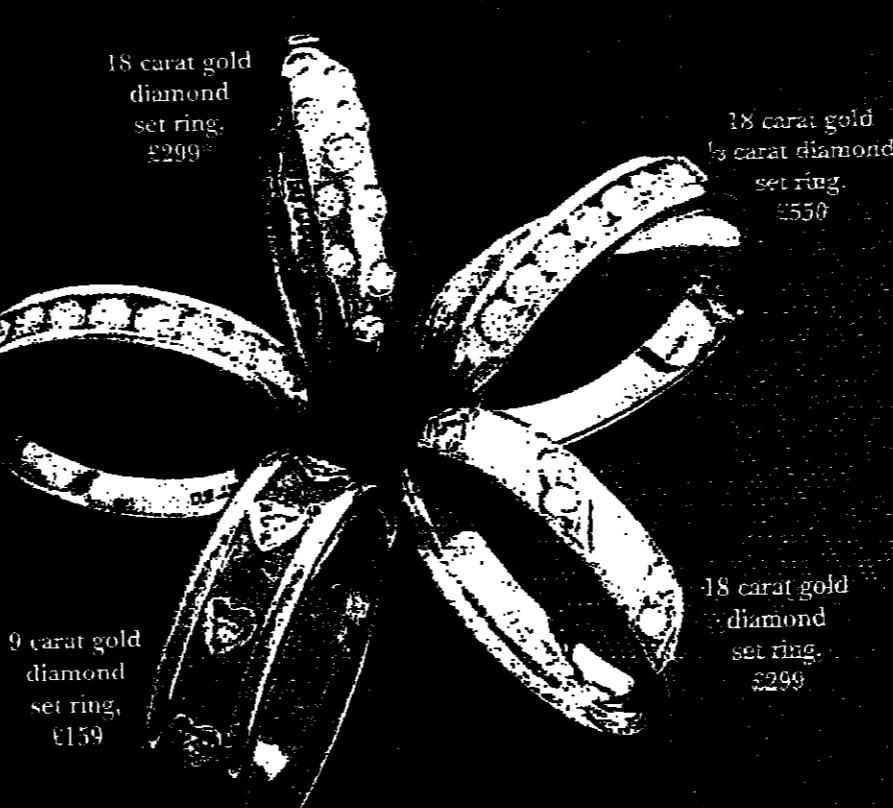
Liam Neeson is named as a candidate for Best Actor for his controversial leading role in *Michael Collins*, a film about the Irish Republican activist.

Lauren Bacall and Britain's Paul Scofield are nominated for their supporting roles in *The Mirror Has Two Faces* and *The Crucible* respectively. Alan Parker, the Los Angeles-based British director, is nominated for his work on *Evita*. Madonna is nominated in the musicals category for her starring role.

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CHANGING TIMES

Bardot denies race hate in attack on Muslim sheep rite

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

BRIGITTE BARDOT took a leading role in a Paris courtroom yesterday to answer allegations that a newspaper article, in which she claimed France was overrunning by sheep-slaughtering Muslims, was an incitement to racial hatred.

In an opinion piece for *Le Figaro* in April, the cinematic sex-kitten-turned-animal rights campaigner attacked the Muslim ritual of sheep slaughter during the feast of Eid al-Kebir. France, she said, was being swamped with foreigners. The two principal

anti-racist groups in France filed a lawsuit accusing her of illegally inciting racism against Muslims. She faces fines of Fr300,000 (£37,000) and up to a year in prison if convicted.

Mme Bardot's lawyer said that she wanted to make a personal appearance to explain her views, and planned to call three witnesses: an animal film-maker, a vet and an animal welfare official.

The 62-year-old animal rights activist has often voiced right-wing views and in newly published memoirs she de-

scribed Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the extreme-right National Front, as a charming and cultivated man. M Le Pen recently declared racial inequality "a fact", prompting Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, to accuse him of being "deeply, viscerally racist".

In her article Mme Bardot described herself as "a Frenchwoman of ancient stock" and threatened to leave France because it tolerates the Muslim sheep-killing ritual, which she described in graphic, almost hysterical, terms. "Tens of thousands of poor beasts have their throats slit... while children splashed with blood bathe in this terrible mess of gore squirting from badly-cut jugulars," wrote Mme Bardot, who quit acting in 1972.

"My country, France, my homeland... is again being invaded by this foreign, especially Muslim, overpopulation... we are forced to submit to this Muslim overflow against our will."

The French Movement Against Racism described the article as a "genuine incitement to racial hatred". It said:

"We must ask whether this woman an animal defender is ill, not with mad cow disease, but with the lethal virus of racism."

Rafsanjani bolsters ties with Turkey

By MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

PRESIDENT Rafsanjani of Iran was greeted with full military honours on his arrival in Turkey yesterday, where he began top-level talks on the construction of a \$23 billion (£14 billion) gas pipeline the two countries are to build in defiance of US pressure.

In an important first visit to a Nato neighbour that breaks Iran's isolation, Hojatollah Rafsanjani underlined Iran's growing ties with the Islamic Government of Necmettin Erbakan. President Demirel said important trade and economic results would be achieved during the four days.

Mr Erbakan visited Iran during his first overseas trip after taking office, signing the pipeline deal days after President Clinton announced a law imposing sanctions on any country investing more than \$40 million a year in the energy industries of Iran or Libya.

The deal's first stage was initiated last week with the announcement of a tender to construct a 190-mile stretch from the Iranian border to the Turkish town of Ezurum. However there are lingering tensions between Ankara and Tehran over Turkey's renewed \$600 million military agreement with Israel concerning the modernisation of Turkish F4 fighter-bombers.

Mr Erbakan's visit follows a record 11 babies after fertility treatment had been given an 80 per cent chance of saving four of them. Doctors planned to terminate three embryos yesterday and said four more would be aborted over the next two weeks.

"If there was any way I could have kept them all, I would have loved to," said Zoë Efthathou, 23. Her doctor, Andreas Pat-

salides, insisted there was no chance all could survive. "Now there is a 75 to 80 per cent chance of survival for three or four of them and this will increase after the twenty-fifth week of pregnancy," he said.

There is a possibility that Mrs Efthathou, who is ten weeks pregnant, and her husband, Demetris, 27, an accountant, could be expecting even more babies. "Because so many are cramped into such a small place it was difficult to determine the exact number. There is a possibility we may find some

more. But already this is the first documented case worldwide of so many multiple embryos," said Dr Patsalides.

In October a British woman, Mandy Allwood, 32, who was pregnant with eight foetuses after fertility treatment, lost all of them in less than 48 hours. The Cypriot couple had sought advice from her gynaecologist, Dr Kypros Nicolaides, a Cypriot who originally comes from their home town of Paphos.

The couple already have a two-year-old girl, again after fertility treatment.

Fertility treatment gave wife 11 embryos

FROM MICHAEL THEODOUTOU
IN NICOSIA

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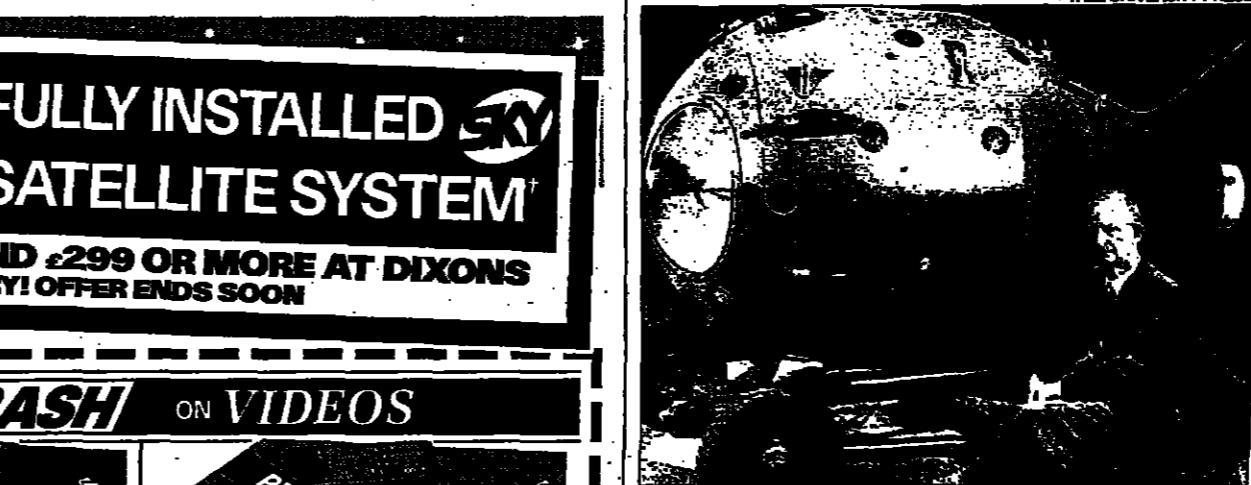
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YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS



Zoë Efthathou with her husband, Demetris. They agreed to abort some of the foetuses to give the others a better chance

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Yuli Khariton with a copy of Russia's first A-bomb

A-bomb pioneer dies

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA was in mourning yesterday after the death of Professor Yuli Khariton, the father of the Soviet atom bomb and one of the key Cold War figures.

Professor Khariton, aged 92, died early yesterday at Arzamas-16, the secret city 300 miles east of Moscow that he founded 50 years ago as the centre of the country's nuclear weapons programme. His

body is expected to be flown to Moscow where it will be buried with full state honours at the Novodevichy Convent—the cemetery of the elite.

"It is with the deepest regret that we announce the death of Yuli Khariton, who made enormous contributions in the development of atomic science and technology and created the nuclear shield for our motherland," the Ministry of Atomic Energy said.

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Peter Green is back
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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY DECEMBER 20 1996

Halifax spending a little Xtra £413m on flotation

By ANNE ASHWORTH
AND CAROLINE MERRILL

THE Halifax Building Society has revealed that its metamorphosis into the 30th biggest bank in the world will cost £413 million — £46 for every borrower and saver.

The total is made up of two elements: £260 million of costs associated with the Leeds Building Society merger and £153 million in conversion expenses, including fees to lawyers and merchant bankers.

The society will make its stock market debut next June in a £10 billion conversion. Nine million investing and borrowing members will receive an average payout of £1,000 in free Halifax shares.

More than half of the conversion expenses, some £75 million, will be spent on communicating with these members. Each mailing costs around £5 million but the distribution of voting packs containing transfer documents and voting papers early next month will be a

£10-£20 million operation. It will involve 13 mailing houses and eight printing companies, approximately 60 per cent of the printing capacity of the UK, while the Post Office will lay on 60 Royal Mail lorries to work non-stop for eight days.

The transfer document giving full details of the conversion, runs to some 150 pages. To spare a few trees, the Halifax sought Building Societies Commission approval to produce an abbreviated version but was refused.

Gary Marsh, assistant general manager of the Halifax, explained that the other half of the £153 million in conversion expenses would be spent on advertising, reprinting leaflets and removing the words "building society" from its signs. He would not disclose payments to Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank advising on the conversion. But a senior executive of another firm speculated that the bill would be £10-£20 million, with the bank offering its services at reduced

cost in the hope of securing profitable work from the Halifax after flotation. Linklaters & Paines, the City lawyers acting for the Halifax, charges about £500 an hour.

Reorganisation and restructuring accounted for the bulk of the £260 million Leeds merger total.

Although some money is being spent on opening, closing and enlarging branches, the information technology outlay has been greater as the Halifax works to integrate its largely IBM-based

system and the Leeds's mainly Unisys system, a process that has been a struggle at times.

The interim accounts include an exceptional provision of £5.5 million for losses on the disposal of computer equipment. The conversion cost figures were released yesterday with interim accounts for the Halifax showing profits before tax of £7.2 million for the nine months to October 31. The accounts have been specially prepared for inclusion in the transfer document.

Delay on payout to Lloyd's names

By JON ASHWORTH

LLOYD'S of London has admitted that it has run into serious delays in paying out funds under its ambitious recovery plan.

It has also admitted that about 4,000 names will have to pay more to settle their dues at Lloyd's, because of adverse movements on the currency exchanges. It denied that the delays threaten a knock-on effect in the insurance market.

Ron Sandler, chief executive, has written to names to apologise for setbacks to the payment timetable, and saying that "no effort is being spared" to bring the process back on track. In his letter, Mr Sandler admits that it had not been possible to settle with members by mid-December as intended.

Mr Sandler does not give a reason for the delay, other than referring in general terms to the "complex" nature of the accounting programmes involved. He adds: "I feel sure that you will understand our concern to ensure that these processes are followed diligently and, with the benefit of hindsight, perhaps our timetable was over optimistic."

Mr Sandler says the delays are not linked to attempts to collect funds from refusenik names. Lloyd's set out to recover nearly £500 million from 1,850 names in the UK, US and Canada, but the amount has fallen as members have requested talks. A test case involving debt recoveries comes in London today.

The admissions are an embarrassment to Lloyd's, which has been quick to emphasise the importance of timetables when seeking money from members. It insists, however, that the Reconstruction and Renewal (R&R) plan remains on course. Some 8,200 out of 12,000 names eligible to receive a rebate from Lloyd's under the settlement offer have already paid.

Lloyd's would not elaborate on whether steps had been taken to hedge against the risk of currency movements. It said the potential for increased payments had been spelt out in the settlement offer document. A spokesman confirmed that a number of names who had accepted and owe money to Lloyd's had yet to settle their dues. They had been granted time to settle their affairs.

According to some reports, as many as 1,700 names are involved.

It seems inevitable that the delays will spill over into the new year. There are fears in some quarters that this threatens a knock-on effect for large insurance brokers who could face a situation where their tax liabilities exceed their net assets.

The tax implications would be pursued directly with members' agents, increasing uncertainty in the market.

Mr Sandler wrote to names early last month, flagging "slight delays" in the R&R timetable.

The intention was to complete the distribution process "as far as possible" by the end of the year.

Asda keeps it simple ... and very profitable

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

ARCHIE NORMAN, chairman of Asda, said yesterday that the supermarket group will stick to the "simple business of shopkeeping" rather than follow its rivals into financial services and loyalty cards.

Mr Norman, who is also the Conservative Party's prospective parliamentary candidate for Tunbridge Wells, said: "Everyone in the industry is looking for other things to do on the periphery. I do not rule them out, but the real success is concentrating on fresh food, value for money and service." Asda is continuing to test a loyalty card in 20 stores, but has no immediate plans to introduce it nationwide because of the high cost, he said. All of Asda's main rivals — Tesco, their Sainsbury and Safeway — have their own nationwide loyalty card schemes and offer a range of financial services.

Mr Norman was speaking as he revealed profits for the six months to



Dunn & Co back in hands of receiver

By JASON NISSE

DUNN & CO, the menswear retailer specialising in hats and tweed, has collapsed for the second time in six years.

KPMG was appointed yesterday as receiver to Dunn, which employs 429 staff and has 130 stores, mostly in Wales and the South West of England.

The company was only created in June 1994 when a team of managers from Yorkshire bought the Dunn name, along with 40 of its stores, and merged it with their own group, Hodge. It has struggled as its customers, though loyal, are a small and declining group of the population.

Previously the retailer, which was created in 1888, had been liquidated by its owners, the Dunn pension fund, and the shops not sold on to Hodge were put into a property company.

DENISE KINGSMILL, above, the lawyer who once represented George Walker, is to be a deputy chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (Jon Ashworth writes). Mrs Kingsmill, 49, will be one of three deputies at the MMC, and the first woman to hold the post, when she starts in the £68,000-a-year job next September.

She will work with Graham Corbett, 62, former chief financial officer of

Lawyer taking monopolies job

Eurotunnel, who joins the MMC in May. A former senior partner in Peat Marwick in Paris, Mr Corbett will be paid £51,000 for working three days a week. Mrs

Kingsmill will still act as a consultant to Denton Hall, the City law firm. Born in New Zealand, and raised in Wales, she has worked in the law since 1979, specialising in industrial relations and corporate governance. As a partner in DJ Freeman, she acted for Mr Walker after his ousting by Brent Walker's bankers in 1991. She said the MMC role "comes right to the heart of business".

MG investors await compensation news

By ROBERT MILLER

MORE than 90,000 investors in Morgan Grenfell, owned by Deutsche Bank of Germany, are today expected to hear details of how their compensation will be calculated.

The exercise is likely to cost Morgan Grenfell, owned by Deutsche Bank of Germany, more than £200 million. Investors should receive their cheques before Easter, next year.

The compensation is in addition to the £180 million already handed over by Deutsche to cover the more illiquid stocks held in two funds run by Peter Young who was dismissed

Pennington, page 23

for "gross misconduct" and who is the subject of a Serious Fraud Office investigation.

Imra, the watchdog for fund managers, is looking at the use of investors' money to buy shares in breach of City rules. Morgan Grenfell faces a hefty fine, which could top the previous record of £750,000 levied on Livedo over the Maxwell affair.

Certain senior executives in charge of Mr Young also face fines and possible bans from working in the City for a period.

GKN faces \$400m suit over US subsidiary

By OLIVER AUGUST

GKN, the engineering and defence group, faces a damages bill of about \$400 million after a US exhaust subsidiary lost a class action suit.

The 1996 accounts will be hit by an appropriate provision pending further clarification of the complicated judgment, the group said. It called the judgment a setback in its financial position but emphasised that the agreed dividend for 1996 will not change.

A GKN statement said: "We are extremely surprised at the outcome which we believe to be wholly unreasonable and will appeal following delivery of the judgment."

The judgment in the case will not be issued until post-verdict issues and procedures have been resolved and this could take some weeks. The issues still to be determined could result in a substantial modification of the award.

At face value the aggregate amount

awarded by a North Carolina court is \$398 million. It is possible that damages could be reduced on judgment or increased to a maximum of \$554 million. Some parts of the claim are covered by the North Carolina Unfair Trade Practices Act which allows for treble of penalties.

The case concerns alleged breaches of contract and other claims about advertising activities brought by franchisees of the Meineke Discount Muffler Shops.

The action was also brought against New Horizons, Meineke's subsidiary; GKN Parts Industries, its immediate parent company; GKN, its ultimate parent; and three US resident offices of Meineke.

GKN shares fell sharply after the company's announcement, closing at £10.09, down from £10.45.

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Waterford buys 9% stake in Rosenthal

FROM EILEEN McCABE
IN DUBLIN

WATERFORD Wedgwood, the crystal and china company, put an end to months of speculation yesterday when it confirmed that it is taking a 9.1 per cent stake in Rosenthal, the German porcelain group.

Under the deal Waterford Wedgwood, which is chaired by Tony O'Reilly, will acquire 60,000 new Rosenthal shares at or close to the prevailing market price.

The Irish company said that it also has options to acquire a further 15 per cent of Rosenthal over the next four years.

Waterford Wedgwood declined to put a value on its stake, but market analysts in Dublin said that based on Rosenthal's current share price, the 9.1 per cent stake is worth around £2.5 million.

Although the two companies operate in the luxury goods sector, their products are not in direct competition and they already have distribution agreements in several markets.

As well as strengthening those marketing ties, the new alliance will also give them scope to collaborate on manufacturing.

Earlier this year Rosenthal adopted a restructuring programme in an effort to cut costs after it recorded losses of more than £17 million in 1995. In contrast, Waterford Wedgwood is expected to report operating profits of around £139 million for 1996.

Dr O'Reilly said yesterday that he was confident that the new alliance would help to restore the German group to profitability.



Raj Bagri, left, the chairman of the LME, and David King, its chief executive, yesterday after the SIB announced the results of its review

Firms face tighter regulation and control over metal trades

BY ROBERT MILLER

PER CENT for the portion of the world's copper market he accounted for. At the request of Raj Bagri and David King, respectively, chairman and chief executive of the LME, the SIB launched its review.

The SIB, headed by Sir Andrew Large, said that it wanted "an urgent and thorough review by the LME of its governance, so that it is clear that conflicts of interest are avoided and that it is run in the interests of the full range of its users and members".

The chief City watchdog is aware that to many outsiders, and even inside regulatory circles, the perception of the LME is that it does not appear to have enough inde-

pendent voices on its 16-strong board of directors or on the exchange's executive.

The SIB said that it wanted "an increase in the role, authority and resources of the LME Executive, to enable it better to meet the challenges of running and regulating a successful world market".

Last year the 120-year old LME, which has grown by 700 per cent in the past eight years, traded more than \$2.5 trillion worth of metals — chiefly copper, but also aluminium, zinc, lead, tin and nickel. More than 90 per cent of the world's copper is traded through the London exchange.

On the discipline and enforcement aspect of the LME's work the SIB says "we recom-

mend that in future it [the LME] establishes and enforces a policy of pursuing disciplinary action where rule breaches are identified".

The LME welcomed the review, although Mr Bagri said: "You can never stop people going berserk, being greedy or just plain foolish."

Mike O'Brien, Shadow Economic Secretary, said: "Self-regulation failed in the Sumitomo case. The LME must now make urgent changes if it is to ensure its future as a recognised investment exchange. However, the LME was not responsible for most of the scandal."

Pennington, page 23

Rail link builders prepare for float

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

A £1 billion stock market flotation to finance the Channel Tunnel Rail Link, Britain's biggest mainland civil engineering project since the war, will go ahead within the next 18 months, the builders of the high-speed route declared yesterday.

The company is to concentrate UK production at a single site in Northern Ireland, where an additional 300 jobs will be created over the next three to four years.

The restructuring will give rise to a £70 million charge. In addition, £40 million is to be invested in Northern Ireland to install high-speed machinery.

Gallagher closed a factory in Belfast in 1988 and another at Port Talbot, South Wales, in 1994. It has cut its distribution branches from eight to one since 1991.

Gallagher is expected to be demerged from American Brands, its parent company, in mid-1997, when it will seek a stock market listing in London.

1995 prices, but financing costs will take the total soaring past £3 billion.

The consortium, which also operates the 180mph Eurostar trains between London, Paris and Brussels, will eventually be able to claim £1.4 billion of the costs back from the Government.

Sir Derek Hornby, the chairman of LCR, said that last month's Channel Tunnel fire would not affect the company's long-term plans, in spite of the two-week closure of the tunnel and the six-month disruption to services. "We are regarding this as an isolated case, which is already showing marked signs of improvement," he said.

DENZIL MENEELANCE

IBC wins £180m deal for new Euro van

BY KEVIN EASON
MOTORING EDITOR

BRITISH workers have beaten international competition to win an £180 million deal to build a new van for Europe. The investment is worth an extra 900 jobs for the IBC plant at Luton, Bedfordshire.

IBC bid for the deal against competition from Renault plants in France and Opel companies in Germany, which belong to the same General Motors group as IBC, part of Vauxhall Motors.

The announcement came as national figures showed car and commercial vehicle output from British manufacturers up in November by 2.28 per cent at £53,493. The figures masked a slump at home and a boom abroad: car production for export was ahead 19.24 per cent last month but shipments overseas of commercial vehicles jumped 123 per cent.

The co-operative deal means Renault will provide 2.5 to 3.5 tonne vans — badged separately as the Renault Trafic and Vauxhall Arena — until assembly lines at Luton are ready to take the new vehicle at the turn of the century.

Nick Reilly, Vauxhall chairman, said: "This agreement will allow Vauxhall to fully compete in the most buoyant sector of the UK van market. It is also of the utmost significance to the long-term future of our IBC plant at Luton as it will substantially increase the company's role as a European vehicle supplier."

Tring in the red

LITIGATION cost Tring International, the budget music company that has been in dispute with K-tel over alleged copyright violations, £400,000 and helped to push it £2.4 million into the red (£1.44 million profit) in the six months to September 30. There is no interim dividend. The loss is partly because of poor trading in the summer, but also includes £2.6 million exceptional charges. The dispute with K-tel has been settled. Philip Keane is to step down at the end of January as Tring's finance director.

Tempus, page 24

CSX raises Conrail bid

CSX, the US transport conglomerate, has raised its bid for Conrail in a further effort to defeat rival Norfolk Southern. Conrail shareholders would receive an extra \$10 per share in convertible preferred shares as part of the portion of CSX's offer covered by shares. The offer is 60 per cent shares and 40 per cent cash. The increase raises the total value of the \$8.5 billion offer by \$70 million. Management is recommending acceptance, even though Norfolk Southern is offering more in an all-cash offer, worth \$10 billion or \$110 per share.

Acatos profits steady

ACATOS & HUTCHESON, the edible oils and fats manufacturing group, reported a modest rise in pre-tax profits to £7.7 million for the year ending September 29, from £7.6 million in the previous year. Operating profits were lifted to £9.1 million from £6.7 million, before exceptional items, but the group's turnover was down to £282 million from £294 million. Earnings per share rose to 14.6p from 12.2p. The total dividend is raised to 10p from 9p with a 6.5p final due on April 7.

Henri Wintermans sold

BAT Industries has sold the Henri Wintermans Cigar Group to Denmark's Skandinavisk Tobakskompani for £55 million, creating one of Europe's largest manufacturers of cigars. BAT said the sale would result in a small pre-tax profit. Existing sales and distribution relationships would be maintained. BAT, whose shares closed 20p up at 480p, holds a 32.15 per cent stake in Skandinavisk Tobakskompani, which processes cigarettes, roll-your-own and pipe tobacco and also owns Nobel Cigars.

Rubberoid disposal

SHARES of Rubberoid, the all-weather protective systems company, fell 10p to 101p yesterday after it withdrew from its French contracting operations with the sale of Tocover, its subsidiary, for an estimated £300,000. The French contracting operations incurred a pre-tax loss of £300,000 on turnover of £1.3 million last year and are expected to show a pre-tax loss of £800,000 this year. Rubberoid is expected to lose £1.4 million on the sale. The company is also selling its contracting business in Belgium.

Generators retain supply incentives

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

INCENTIVE payments to generators to ensure continuity of supply are to remain throughout the winter despite pressure from the regulator's office and large energy users.

The new set of payments were implemented by the electricity pool at the behest of the Department of Trade and Industry and are designed to limit instability caused by the use of gas contracts that can be interrupted. These contracts give fuel at cheaper prices but can be switched off by the suppliers who, along with British Gas's pipeline network, have given warning that interruptions are likely this winter. Generators, who already receive payments related to power station availability, now enjoy extra payments for turning to alternative fuels and for keeping extra staff on call.

The regulator's office has urged the pool to look at a longer-term solution to sec-

Gallagher to close factory

ALMOST 1,000 jobs are to be lost with the closure of Gallagher's cigarette factory at Hyde in Manchester, it was announced yesterday (Martin Barrow writes).

The company is to concentrate UK production at a single site in Northern Ireland, where an additional 300 jobs will be created over the next three to four years.

The restructuring will give rise to a £70 million charge. In addition, £40 million is to be invested in Northern Ireland to install high-speed machinery.

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Pool troubles, page 25

Bank of Scotland Mortgages Direct

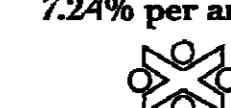
NOTICE OF INTEREST RATE VARIATION

The following rates for mortgages provided by Bank of Scotland, Mortgages Direct will apply as from 2nd January 1997 for both new and existing borrowers.

Bank of Scotland Mortgages Direct Variable Rate
7.74% per annum.

Bank of Scotland Mortgages Direct Preferential Variable Rate
6.74% per annum.

Bank of Scotland Mortgages Direct Personal Choice Variable Rate
7.24% per annum.



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Mystery Arizona fan buys a stake in Chelsea

BY JASON NISSE

KEN BATES, chairman of Chelsea Village, which owns Chelsea football club, yesterday made a £375,000 profit on a deal to sell a 5.8 per cent stake in the group to a mystery investor, believed to be from Arizona, without informing his company secretary of the new shareholder's identity.

Haivering, a company controlled by a Channel Island trust, acquired an option to subscribe for a 5.8 per cent stake in the company given to Mr Bates earlier this year. Haivering immediately exercised the option, paying £45 million for the shares which last night were valued at £8.5 million. When asked who Haivering was, Alan Shaw, Chelsea's company secretary

said: "I don't know. We have not served a 212 notice." This is a requirement for an investor to disclose the beneficial owners of its shares under Section 212 of the Companies Act. Mr Shaw added that he could not ask Mr Bates who the new shareholder was, saying, "The chairman's gone away and is uncontactable."

Inquiries revealed the investor is a private individual, living in Arizona, who is a keen fan of English football. No-one close to the club said they knew this person's name.

The estate of Matthew Harding, the Chelsea deputy chairman who died in the autumn, holds an identical option and it is expected that, after the publication of his will this week, this option will be exercised in the next few days. These moves will bring in £9 million of finance, allowing the club to complete the current stage of its development programme involving flats and a hotel behind the south stand.

Chelsea also moved to deal with the identity of Rysaffe, a Hong Kong company that is its 36.3 per cent shareholder. It said it was a blind trust in which Mr Bates had no interest and the shares are now to be administered by a management company run by Patrick Murin, an accountant from Guernsey who is a non-executive director of Chelsea.

■ Newcastle United confirmed its intention to float on the stock market. Full details will be published in January, with

United expected to be valued at over £150 million.

TOPICS

FINANCIAL

Bank

Buy

Sell

Doubts over copper debacle Winners and losers in supermarket wars Two questions for Berisford shareholders

□ HOW could a company lose nearly \$3 billion through the activities of just one employee? Even Nick Leeson needed a bit of help. Easy; just ask Sumitomo Corporation. The Japanese trading conglomerate has steadfastly insisted that solo fraudulent trading activities of Yasuo Hamanaka, its former star copper trader, were responsible for the corporation's losses.

That explanation is hardly credible when you consider the facts as we now know them and as outlined again by the Securities and Investments Board.

In 1991 senior officials from the London Metal Exchange (LME) and the SIB interviewed Mr Hamanaka in the UK, together with a senior Sumitomo executive, after they learnt that the Japanese copper dealer had asked another London trader for a backdated invoice of a fictitious trade worth \$20 million.

David King, chief executive of the LME, registered clear concern about the dummy trade and the large positions taken by the Japanese in the copper market. The SIB likewise. Yet Sumitomo said that false document was required for legitimate (i) Japanese tax purposes, and Mr Hamanaka, who has indicated that he will plead guilty to certain fraud charges, went on to account for about 5 per cent of the global copper market.

There were further warnings to Sumitomo that also seem to have been ignored. Although this column has had good reason in the past to take City watchdogs to task, it appears that everything that could and should have been done, was. The trouble is that the metals market is dominated by a few very large professional players who know the rules — there are no widows and orphans being gyped, and they should perhaps be left to look after their own affairs. The sort of regulation available to less specialised authorities can only be minimal and tangential.

As to how such investigations should be handled after the fact, the Sumitomo affair is being examined by civil and criminal authorities in Britain, the US and Japan. In many ways it provides a template for the future, showing how all the different bodies should co-operate. Whether any charges, other than those against Mr Hamanaka, are pressed remains to be seen: piecing together the huge copper trades done on behalf of Sumitomo will take many more months.

But there is a growing feeling in the City that the UK authorities are being too tactful and circumspect with their Japanese counterparts. It is whispered that if anyone were to be so impolite as to raise criticisms, or even be suspected of doing so, Japan would withdraw its co-operation.

This is arrant nonsense. As one of the biggest and most respected traders in the world the Japanese must learn to be more open with their international partners. Perhaps if they had listened to those warnings back in 1991 they would not be in such a sensitive position now.

Ringing change at the cash tills

□ THE rich get richer, the poor get poorer, and God is indeed on the side of the big battalions — at least in the supermarket wars. The sector's interim reporting season ended with a bang, as Asda stormed in with outstanding profit and sales growth.

The chain's gross margins, the all-important measure for the



grocers, may have fallen by half a percentage point, but the company's extraordinary renaissance over the past half-decade has been more about volume growth, and this trend continued. Like-for-like sales were 10 per cent ahead, and customer numbers 7 per cent higher. And all this without a loyalty card. Archie Norman, now chairman, can contemplate a less taxing role and a political career with some confidence.

How different it was for Iceland back in September, at the beginning of the results season, reporting the first profits setback in the company's 26-year history. Since then we have had Tesco confirming its position as number one in the sector, J

Sainsbury struggling, with little success so far, to find a way to get back on top, and Safeway coming in as a solid runner-up.

The sector has, even more than before, split into two packs. Way out ahead are Tesco, J Sainsbury, Asda and Safeway. The rest are also-rans, and the tiddlers in the sector, particularly Kwik Save, look weaker than ever. The big four have been using their buying power and sophisticated marketing techniques to steal market share. The end result must be consolidation among those also-rans, and the exit of one or more of the foreign discounters who have set up shop over here.

It will be difficult for any of the big four to snap up the smaller chains without running into competition problems, particularly if Labour is in power, so deals may have to be struck. It will be amusing to watch Asda and Tesco, for example, squabbling over how to carve up, say, Wm Morrisons to their own mutual advantage, but the spectacle is likely to begin before too long. The existence of proper competition in such a market is a

Antonini as chief executive and a remuneration package of truly transatlantic proportions.

Mr Antonini remains as chief executive. His contract runs for another year and a bit, and he must be still paid a "guaranteed bonus" equal to at least half his earnings. Fine minds might muse the difference between a guaranteed bonus and a straight salary — might it have something to do with disguising the size of the latter?

Simple shareholders should consider two questions ahead of Berisford's annual meeting on January 28. Just what is Mr Antonini doing to justify that package? And why is the company refusing to promise now that his contract, once it expires, will not be renewed?

Shut up and pay up

□ MORGAN GRENFELL has developed another unpleasant trait besides losing investors' money: whingeing about it. MG claims to have been unfairly treated by watchdog Imro over the mismanagement of its European funds. But no such complaint could arise if investors had not suffered first. Now is the time for Morgan Grenfell to shut up, stop bringing the unit trust industry into disrepute and pay up to 90,000-plus investors. And no later than today, please.

Rank says £185m charges will hit full-year figures

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

RANK GROUP, the leisure company, yesterday disappointed the City with a worse than expected trading statement and the suggestion that the sale of its £1 billion stake in Rank Xerox might be delayed until early 1998.

Rank shares fell 24½p to 417½p after analysts downgraded full-year figures from £330 million to £300

million. Rank shares have now fallen more than 20 per cent since April with the City concerned about the company's strategy.

Rank also said that full-year profits would be hit by about £18 million in exceptional charges, including £35 million costs for restructuring and a £150 million write-down after a property review. However, the

NatWest Ventures is investing £30 million for a majority stake, with the remainder being taken by management and employees. Shearings sells more than 500,000 holidays a year targeted largely at an older age group.

Rank is expected to complete a £300 million disposal plan with the sale of Kingston Plantation, its US property subsidiary, early next year for about £60 million.

The company said in its 11-month trading statement that all the businesses had moved ahead in 1996, with film and entertainment services performing especially strongly. Video duplication volumes increased 16 per cent, boosted by major releases in the US such as *Independence Day*, *Mission Impossible* and *The Nutty Professor*.

Rank added that the integration of the remainder of the Hard Rock Cafe chain, which was acquired for £270 million in June, was proceeding well. But profits from the chain have fallen because of a 4 per cent decline in like-for-like sales and the temporary closure of the Paris outlet. Rank said that it had plans to accelerate openings.

Rank's admissions rose slightly on a like-for-like basis, bucking the market trend. Spending per head also rose 6 per cent, helping Rank to increase gaming profit. The company added that its cinemas had also been performing strongly.

Tom Cobleigh, the pub chain acquired for £120 million, is performing up to expectations and new sites have been identified. Rank said it was aiming to add 20 new pubs in 1997 to the existing 52 sites.

The volumes of UK holidays increased 3 per cent with a 5 per cent boost in retail spending at the sites, which include Oasis and Warner. Paid admissions to Universal City, Florida, also rose 6 per cent.

The company added that it expected to receive £40 million in profits from its stake in Rank Xerox.

CITIZENS Financial Group, the Royal Bank of Scotland subsidiary in America, has raised \$89 million through the sale of \$5 billion of third party mortgage servicing rights to Dovenmuehle Mortgage.

Dovenmuehle will also subserve the entire portfolio of mortgage loans owned by Citizens, currently \$3.2 billion.

In September Citizens said that it planned to sell its entire \$8.8 billion mortgage servicing portfolio and withdraw from the wholesale mortgage business.

The decision was taken as part of a strategic repositioning to focus on retail mortgage business through its banking franchise in New England.

Yesterday's deal was approved by the Federal Trade Commission to be completed in the first quarter of 1997.

Citizens said that it would continue to explore strategic options for the remaining \$3.8 billion of third party mortgage servicing rights.

Royal Bank of Scotland owns 76.5 per cent of Citizens. The balance is owned by Bank of Ireland.

Tempus, page 24

Citizens raises \$89m from mortgage rights

BY MARTIN BARROW

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STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Billion-share turnover extends the festive rally

DEALERS had to contend with another day of frenetic trading, with a staggering 1.1 billion shares changing hands, as the London stock market extended its pre-Christmas rally.

Share prices closed at their best of the day, underpinned by another positive start to trading on Wall Street where the Dow Jones industrial average was sporting a near 60-point rise in early trading.

Investors were heartened enough to shrug off the stronger than expected surge in the November money supply that could add pressure for a further rise in interest rates.

Instead, the FTSE 100 index put on a further 33.1 points to close at 4,051.3, extending its lead during the past two days to 77.1. Year-end window dressing by the institutions and book squaring ahead of today's expiry of the FTSE 100 options were given as reasons for the high turnover and sharp price movements among leading shares.

Stock shortages drove Railtrack 271p higher at 389p ahead of the stock going ex-dividend in the new year. United Biscuits, that old takeover favourite, also put on 5p at 210p as a few speculative buyers again dreamt of a break-up bid. Dalgety extended this week's lead with a rise of 4p at 354p as it continued to talk to brokers.

But brokers were unimpressed with the trading update from Rank Organisation, the price dropping 251p to 4161p. BZW has cut its profit forecast for the current year from £32 million to £34 million after the group warned of write-offs of £235 million. The sale of Rank's £1 billion stake in Rank Xerox has been put back to 1998.

Takesover speculation continued to drive General Accident higher. The price jumped 141p to 750p. Speculators are still talking about a possible bid from BAT Industries, up 171p at 484p, after talks with Commercial Union were reckoned to have been aborted. CU rose 11p to 688p.

The City gave a cautious welcome to half-year figures from Asda showing pre-tax profits 16 per cent higher at £160.1 million. The shares firmed 13p to 1251p. Archie Norman, chairman, said he was reluctant to take on the market leaders by expanding its loyalty card scheme to cover all Asda stores. The



Shares in Asda firmed 13p on first-half results for Allan Leighton, chief executive, left, and Archie Norman

price closed 3p better at 1265p.

News of its defeat in the US courts saw GKN dip below the 100 level, touching 969p before reducing the deficit to 351p at 10109p. The group now plans to make provisions to take account of an award made against its Meineke subsidiary totalling \$395 million. The group emphasised

Europe and currency fluctuations for the setback. The group will also take a £1.4 million hit on the sale of Tocover, its loss-making French business.

Fountain Forestry established a useful premium in first time trading on the Alternative Investment Market after a placing by Charles Stanley, the broker, at 75p. The group emphasised

Hunters Armley, the commercial printer, stood out with a rise of 121p at 105p on the back of a "buy" recommendation from Panmure Gordon, the broker. Panmure has increased its pre-tax profit estimate for the current year from £4 million to £42 million. That compares with £1.8 million last time.

that the provisions would not affect the current year.

A profits warning left Ruberoid 101p lower at 1011p. The fall might have been greater but the group has pegged its total dividend at 6.1p despite a disappointing second-half performance that will leave profits for the full year below expectations. The group blamed poor weather in

the group, which provides forest management and tree related services for private and corporate landowners, utilities and local authorities, saw its price start life at 791p before closing at 841p, a premium of 91p.

First-time dealings in Crown Leisure, the fruit machine supplier, made an encouraging start after plac-

ing at 77p. The shares touched a high of 81p before finishing at 801p, a premium of 31p. Newcastle United's decision to join the growing number of football clubs seeking a stock market listing has helped to refocus attention back on Manchester United, with the price surging 261p to 641p. Manchester United is without question the most successful Premiership side both on and off the field. City speculators say the introduction of pay-per-view television could provide a new lease of life for the shares. Next stop, say the City speculators, is E10.

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**THE
TIMES
CITY
DIARY**

**Policing by
the book**

THE Metropolitan Police made a surprise visit yesterday to the West End offices of Dennis Publishing.

As a Christmas prank (supposedly) one of the staff hung out a sign saying "Help, I am being held here against my will". A concerned local resident dialled 999 on seeing the note, and the police immediately sent round officers to investigate.

A rather bemused receptionist told the officers that she could hardly stop people leaving at the end of an evening, and a relieved constable replied: "We'll have to get the armed hostage squad off alert, then."

Sunken feeling

POOR Russell Jones, property director of Newcastle United, is ruing the length of time it has taken for Newcastle City Council to approve the club's scheme to build a new stadium. He claims to have come up with the idea for a sunken pitch and was sick as a parrot when he saw the plans for the new stadium for deadly rivals Sunderland Football Club with, guess what, a sunken pitch.

Miles worse

TEETHING trouble at the Kuwaiti Investment Office which yesterday hosted its first annual draw. Dissent broke out among employees on the announcement of the rules drawn up to qualify for air miles amassed by KIO's high-flying executives. Staff were required to have worked at least six hours a week overtime. Even one day off work sick would have invalidated their entry. Into the hat went 60 names: 20 lucky winners flew off with between 500 and 3,500 air miles.



Skirting issues

ROBERT THOMSON, the chief executive of Scottish Friendly Assurance Society, will be donning his kilt in Mackintosh tartan tonight for a ceilidh at the Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow. Word has it that, not to be outdone, Thomson has been in training for the gathering.

In character

THE urbane Martin Taylor, the chief executive at Barclays, will be rubbing shoulders with the banking unions today. Fortunately for Taylor, he is fluent in a number of languages, not least of which is Mandarin.

Tread carefully

HOT off the press comes the second issue of the Treasury's Accommodation and Secretary Team bulletin. As well as numerous reminders on how not to start a fire (don't load the electrical circuits with electrical fires, electric guitars, and other electrical appliances, other than necessary office equipment), there is a tempting paragraph titled "Sticky Situations". Under desks, trodden into floors, and even around the urinals are just a few of the places that chewing gum has been found lurking. Yours Disgusted

A sterling forecast that funds ought not to have ignored

Far-fetched sounding predictions proved to be the most reliable

Few things in life are more pleasant than saying "I told you so" — and few things more dangerous. It is therefore with some trepidation that I turn to the annual task of reviewing the new year predictions that I made last January. My forecasts for 1996 proved remarkably successful and I am all too aware that fuck has a way of turning after a winning streak. Readers may do well to bear this in mind when I publish my views about 1997.

White most of the forecasts I made turned out to be right, the best ones, as usual, were the ones that seemed most far-fetched at the time. I said that the pound would be the best pick among the world's major currencies, an idea considered risible by most economists and investors a year ago. My faith in the pound was based on confidence that the British economy would grow faster than generally expected, while most other leading economies would disappoint.

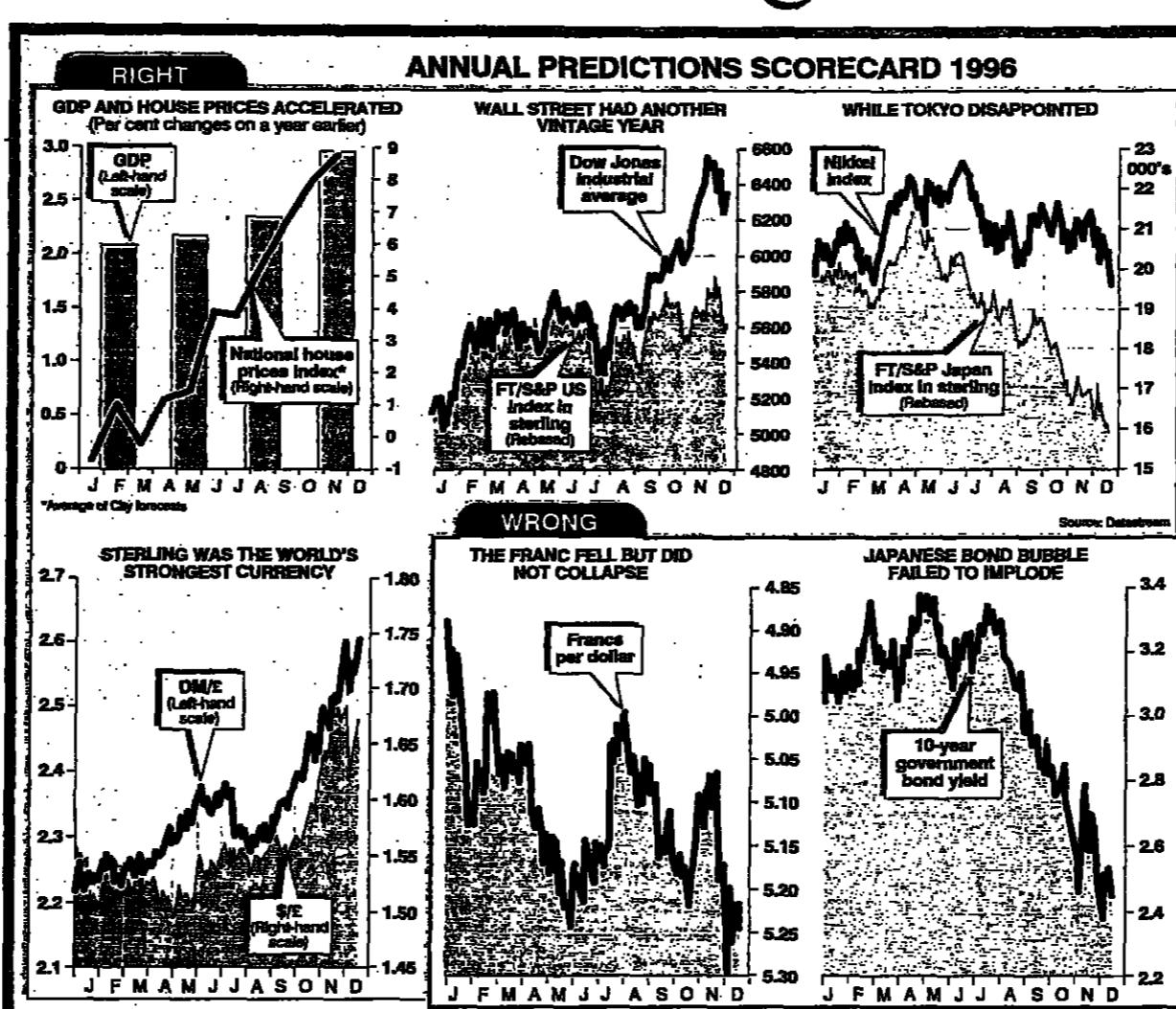
As the year progressed and it became more apparent that the pound had bottomed, my confidence grew and I presented a number of other arguments in favour of sterling — among them the likelihood that a future Labour government would impose higher interest rates than the Tories, combined with a somewhat tamer fiscal policy.

So far, this analysis has worked well and the pound has been easily the strongest of the major currency. In the past few weeks sterling has shown signs of a reversal, but it is far too early to suppose that the underlying trend has again turned down.

My second contrarian call, for the second year running, was about Wall Street. I stuck firmly to a view about American investment which most professional fund managers, especially in the City of London, contemptuously rejected and still reject. This view was, quite simply, that American shares were still good value and that the widely heralded Wall Street crash was not even on the horizon.

I rejected the popular argument that dividend yields on Wall Street were too low or that the heady rate of price gains had set the market up for a crash. Both of these propositions seemed to be based on a wishful misreading of the statistics by analysts and investors who had simply made the strategic mistake of underestimating US profits growth.

Of course, after a gain of a further 20 per cent in the past 12 months, the question of Wall Street's underlying value has to



be considered afresh and I shall try to do that on January 10. For the moment, suffice it to say that the still-dreaded crash is unlikely to happen between now and then.

My third, even more controversial, conviction was about stock markets in Japan and Asia. I was convinced that the Japanese market would go nowhere, while most of the Asian emerging markets would continue to fall.

The view among the professionals could not have been more different. Last January, the Merrill Lynch survey of British fund managers, who between them controlled assets worth more than £1,000 billion, showed bulls on Japan outnumbering bears by a record 78 percentage points.

In the event, of course, Tokyo put in a dismal performance — culminating in this week's meltdown which has taken the market to a new low for the year in yen terms and a loss of more than 20 per cent for British investors who were also exposed to the sharp fall of the yen against the pound. A year ago the professionals were still extremely optimistic about Asian emerging markets, which have in general performed even worse.

These same people were overwhelmingly bearish about the prospects for Wall Street.

Taking account of the profits foregone on Wall Street by redirecting money from America to Japan, the total losses for British pension funds from this one strategic blunder can be reckoned at 30 per cent or more.

To judge by the latest Merrill Lynch surveys, these same British investors (along

with their fellows in other financial centres, most of whom made the same mistake) have now finally given up on Tokyo and the Pacific Basin. Given their recent track record this may be a signal that the Asian markets are finally worth buying — a question to which I shall return next month.

Turning to economics, I singled out Britain as the country most likely to produce a positive economic surprise, suggested that growth might also be somewhat higher than expected in America, but that growth in Germany and Japan would disappoint.

In France I foresaw an "outright recession". This was correct in technical terms, since French GDP did decline for two successive quarters, but it reflected an inaccurate assessment of the French Government's ability to stick to its commitments on European monetary union. That, in turn, led to two of the three big mistakes I made in my financial forecasts.

I thought the franc would suffer a "string of crises" and would eventually be devalued against the mark. This turned out to be wrong, although I did suggest that bets against franc fort could be hedged by selling francs against dollars, rather than marks. This was a chance seized with alacrity by many British and American residents in France and it yielded a profit of about 1 per cent.

I also wrongly believed that the fears about EMU would put a "surprisingly high floor" under long-term interest rates in Germany and in the rest of Europe. The reality, of course, has been very different. Al-

though German bond yields did rise in the first half of the year, surprising many investors, they have now fallen back to about last January's level.

Meanwhile, there has been the bull market of a lifetime in bonds of other European countries, especially Italy and Spain, which were not even considered serious candidates for EMU a year ago. Arguably they are still not serious candidates, but nobody can deny the serious profits made by investors who have chosen to take them seriously.

My third big mistake also related to bonds. Like most rational people, I expected a collapse in the Japanese bond market, where insurance companies were eagerly buying ten-year government debt yielding less than 3 per cent for two successive quarters, but it reflected an inaccurate assessment of the French Government's ability to stick to its commitments on European monetary union. That, in turn, led to two of the three big mistakes I made in my financial forecasts.

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But conventional views about the consequences of stronger growth were pessimistic. For example, many forecasters were still predicting that house prices would go on falling. I said, by contrast, that housing offered "stunningly attractive" value and prices would rise by "nearer 10 per cent than the 2 or 3 per cent most experts predict". This turned out to be right, with the latest figures from the Nationwide Building Society showing a rise of 9 per cent.

I also argued that there was nothing surprising about the economic "feel-bad" factor which still preoccupied political commentators a year ago: it was simply a function of the slowest growth in nominal disposable income in 40 years and would be replaced by the elusive "feel-good" factor with the return of robust economic growth. But I disagreed with the Tory economic determinists, such as Michael Heseltine, who believed (and still believe) that rising disposable incomes would automatically lift the Government's political fortunes.

I maintained (and still maintain) that, with the return of prosperity, politics would become more detached from economics. "The economic revival is unlikely to do John Major much good," I said in January. That is one prediction that I will certainly be making again in my 1997 outlook, which should appear here on January 10.

The gal who pulls in mega-bucks

Carl Mortished checks out the charms of Barbie, the fashion icon

For designer glitter, head up to Madison Avenue where the very rich and the very thin buy frills and furs. This patch of New York, a block from Fifth Avenue and Central Park, houses and clothes the city's most elegant and most extravagant.

But the very pinnacle of chic is not to be found at Armani, Donna Karan or Versace. Instead, walk a little further on to FAO Schwarz, where New York's famous toy emporium has erected a temple to the world's most successful fashion model.

Through a plate glass window two stories high, bathed in light is Barbara Millicent Roberts — better known as Barbie. Clad in a tight-fitting little black cocktail dress with golden fringes flying, she clutchers a pink chiffon scarf and croons into a microphone. She is Barbie the torch singer, "Solo in the spotlight".

Surrounding the floor-to-ceiling image are Barbies in display



"Lieutenant Barbie", left, and "Happy Holidays Barbie"

fashions: astronaut, air stewardess, nurse. More recently, she was "Busy gal Barbie" the businesswoman.

Could Barbie be more than she seems? Her namesake, Saint Barbara, was a virgin martyr who lived in Asia minor in the 3rd century. Locked in a tower by a jealous father to discourage suitors, she was baptised secretly. Enraged, the father tortured and executed her. Barbie as virgin heroine is not such a fanciful concept. Throughout history, cults have emerged around female figures representing fertility and chastity without apparent contradiction.

Today's gift of Barbie is a more secular practice, but fans of the doll will recognise similar characteristics: the curiously enlarged breasts on the impossibly slim, chaste frame.

Back on Madison Avenue, the god is still mammon, but inside FAO Schwarz, devotees gather at Barbie's temple. A young mother with a toddler points to the huge Barbie image. "Look, Barbie, Barbie," she repeats. "Bobby, baby" gurgles the little girl. "No, Barbie, Barbie," insists mom-

Electricity pool up to its neck in troubles

Christine Buckley assesses the latest clashes afflicting the power industry

Once again the electricity marketplace is under fire. Critics are mounting a two-pronged attack — over the price of electricity in the pool, the power trading forum, and over extra payments made to generators to ensure security of supply.

Large energy-user groups are lobbying the industry regulator and the Department of Trade and Industry for change — so far with no signs of success.

Prices, they argue, are too high with generation indicating none of the price pressure promised from increased competition. The regulator had argued that more generators would create keener prices in the price-setting area of the market and ordered National Power and PowerGen to sell stations. After several months of a new player joining the two main generators and First Hydro, the peak electricity producer, no difference in electricity pool prices has materialised.

In fact since Eastern bought power stations from National Power and PowerGen the price of electricity has been unusually high with greater payments made to the

generators. On top of the rewards offered to electricity producers for making stations available to feed high electricity demands are fresh incentives to combat generating instability created by gas contracts that can be interrupted. These contracts are struck between gas suppliers and generators at reduced prices on the basis that they may be temporarily halted at the wish of the supplier.

The DTI has urged the pool to instigate measures to ensure security of supply. Last winter the supply system came near to collapse twice. The new payments for power station standby, staff costs and some switching from gas to more expensive fuels, along with general payments for capacity, pump up the spot price of electricity.

There are also fears that the payments will enable generators to arbitrage between the gas and electricity markets, selling their gas into the gas market and then receiving payments for switching to more expensive

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Future of NSM in doubt as talks begin with banks

By MARTIN BARROW, DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

NSM, the troubled private mining company, is in talks with its banks after new operational difficulties caused a shortage of working capital, raising questions about the company's long-term survival.

NSM said that it remained convinced about the viability of its South Wales anthracite operation, provided funds were available to complete the development and to lift production to optimum levels by mid-1997.

Shares of NSM fell 4p, to 8p, yesterday after the company said that it would take an exceptional charge of £71.4 million on the sale of operations, primarily in the United States.

Last month the company appointed PaineWebber Inc, the American merchant bank, to secure a buyer for its operations in Pennsylvania

and West Virginia, which are likely to be sold separately.

The businesses, already affected by depressed coal prices in America, have encountered environmental and geological problems. West Virginia was closed for some months while restoration work was under way, although operations have now been reopened to honour local contracts and to complete the outstanding work.

The Pennsylvania operation is now effectively reduced to one major opencast site and three deep mines, although NSM says that many of the cash-consuming restoration and environmental difficulties have now been completed.

John Jerming, chairman of NSM, said: "There is a return of confidence in the United States coal sector with the expectation of gradually in-

creasing coal prices in coming years, making it an attractive proposition for investors able to take a longer term perspective." Progress had been made in identifying potential buyers of the business in Pennsylvania.

Provisions left NSM nursing a pre-tax loss of £75.65 million in the half-year to September 30, against profits of £2.52 million. The loss per share was 12.3p (earnings of 3.9p). There is again no dividend.

The operating loss was £400,000 (£5.6 million profit), comprising a profit of £2.1 million in the UK, and losses of £1.7 million in America, less central costs. Turnover from continuing operations was £59.6 million, rising from £54.4 million previously.

Tempus, page 24



Graham Lockyer, the Triplex Lloyd chief executive, rejected William Cook's forecasts

Open General Licence Chemical Weapons Act 1996

Date of issue: 1 January 1997

This Licence is granted by the Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 20 of the Chemical Weapons Act 1996 (c.6).

1. Interpretation

(1) In this Licence "Chemical" means any chemical referred to in the Schedule hereto.

(2) The Schedule forms part of this Licence together with any subsequent Schedule(s) which the Secretary of State may issue as a variation to this Licence at a later date.

2. Authorisation

Subject to the terms set out below, this Licence authorises any person—

(a) to produce any Chemical with the intention that it will be used for research, medical and/or pharmaceutical purposes and in a quantity which can be justified for such purposes; and

(b) to have in his possession and use any Chemical for or with the intention that it will be used for research, medical, pharmaceutical and/or protective purposes and in a quantity which can be justified for such purposes.

3. Restrictions

(1) A person shall not produce Chemicals in an aggregate amount exceeding 5 grammes in any calendar year.

(2) A person shall not use or have in his possession more than an aggregate amount of 5 grammes of Chemicals at any time.

4. Notification to the Secretary of State

(1) A person shall immediately notify the Secretary of State if he has any Chemical in his possession at the date hereof and shall notify the Secretary of State within 14 days if he produces or otherwise acquires possession of any Chemical at any time hereafter.

(b) A person who is required to notify the Secretary of State pursuant to sub-clause (1)(a) above shall give particulars of—

(i) his name and address; and

(ii) the location where he produced and/or has the Chemical in his possession.

(c) the person shall notify the Secretary of State within 14 days after any change to any of the said particulars.

(d) where a person has notified the Secretary of State under sub-clause (1)(a) he shall notify the Secretary of State by 15th January in each subsequent year if he still has the Chemical in his possession on 1st January in that year.

(2) A person shall notify the Secretary of State at least 50 days in advance if he intends to import from or export to another Member State of the European Community either of the Chemicals numbered (7) and (8) in the Schedule. He must identify in the notice the Chemical, the quantity, the purpose(s) and the proposed date of the importation or exportation, and the name and address of the transferor or consignee or end user, as the case may be.

(3) Any notice to be given by a person under this clause shall be in writing and shall be sent by post or delivered to the Chemical Weapons Authority, Kinggate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SW.

5. Records

A person who produces, has in his possession, or uses a Chemical shall keep a written record for a period of 3 years of—

(a) its name, structural formula, Chemical Abstracts Service registry number (if any) and quantity;

(b) the purpose(s) for which it was produced, his possession; or used; and

(c) the person from whom he acquired it and/or to whom he has transferred it (if any).

He must permit a person authorised by the Secretary of State to examine and take copies of such records at any reasonable time.

6. Commencement

This Licence shall come into force on 1st January 1997.

M. J. Jerning

An Official of the Department of Trade and Industry authorised to act on behalf of the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Schedule

Chemicals

(CAS registry number)

(1) O-Alkyl (<C10, incl. cycloalkyl) alkyl (Me, Et, n-Pr or i-Pr)-phosphonofluoride e.g. Sarin: O-isopropyl methylphosphonofluoride Soman: O-Isopropyl methylphosphonofluoride	(107-44-8) (96-64-0)
(2) O-Alkyl (<C10, incl. cycloalkyl) N,N-dialkyl (Me, Et, n-Pr or i-Pr)-phosphoramidoanilides e.g. Tabun: O-Ethyl N,N-dimethyl phosphoramidoanilide	(77-81-6)
(3) O-Alkyl (H or <C10, incl. cycloalkyl) S-2-dialkyl (Me, Et, n-Pr or i-Pr)-aminomethyl alkyl (Me, Et, n-Pr or i-Pr)-phosphonodithiates and corresponding alkylated or protonated salts e.g. VX: O-Ethyl S-2-dilopropylaminoethyl methyl phosphonothioate	(50782-69-90)
(4) Sulfur mustards: 2-Chloroethylchloromethylsulfide Mustard gas: 2-(chloromethyl) sulfide Bis (2-chloroethylthio) methane Sequinmustard: 1,2-Bis (2-chloroethylthio) ethane 1,3-Bis (2-chloroethylthio)-n-propane 1,4-Bis (2-chloroethylthio)-n-butane 1,5-Bis (2-chloroethylthio)-n-pentane Bis (2-chloroethylthiomethyl) ether (-Mustard: Bis (2-chloroethylthiomethyl) ether	(2625-76-5) (505-60-2) (63869-13-6) (3563-36-8) (63905-10-2) (142868-93-7) (142868-94-8) (63918-90-1) (63918-89-8)
(5) Lewisites: Lewisite 1: 2-Chlorovinylidichloroarsine Lewisite 2: Bis (2-chlorovinyl) chloroarsine Lewisite 3: Tri (2-chlorovinyl) arazine	(541-25-3) (40334-69-8) (40334-70-1)
(6) Nitrogen Mustards: HN1: Bis (2-chloroethyl) ethylenimine HN2: Bis (2-chloroethyl) methylenimine HN3: Tri (2-chloroethyl) amine	(538-07-8) (51-75-2) (555-77-1)
(7) Saxitoxin	(35523-89-8)
(8) Ricin	(9009-86-3)
(9) Allyl (Me, Et, n-Pr or i-Pr) phosphonyldifluorides e.g. DF: Methylphosphonyldifluoride	(676-99-3)
(10) O-Alkyl (H or <C10, incl. cycloalkyl) O-2-dialkyl (Me, Et, n-Pr or i-Pr)-aminomethyl alkyl (Me, Et, n-Pr or i-Pr)-phosphonites and corresponding alkylated or protonated salts e.g. QL: O-Ethyl O-2-dilopropylaminoethyl methylphosphonite	(57856-11-8)
(11) Chlorosarin: O-isopropyl methylphosphonochloride	(1445-76-7)
(12) Chloroseman: O-Pinacolyl methylphosphonochloride	(7040-57-5)

Notes:
1. In this Schedule the reference to the CAS registry is to the Chemical Abstract Service registry.
2. This Schedule must be read subject to the following proviso, where reference is made to groups of alkylated chemicals, followed by a list of alkyl groups in parentheses, all chemicals possible by all possible

JULY 150



BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Irish Life pays \$163m for American insurer

IRISH LIFE, the Irish Republic's largest assurance group, is to pay \$163 million for the privately owned Guarantee Reserve Life Insurance Company, based in Illinois. The acquisition is the largest purchase ever undertaken by the Irish company. It will be funded from the group's existing resources and from debt financing. Guarantee Reserve is licensed to write life assurance and accident and health business in 47 states and in Washington DC. The company concentrates on risk cover for older age groups, and, in 1995, its premium income topped \$81 million.

David Kingston, Irish Life's managing director, said that the acquisition represented a very significant development of the company's US business. He added that Guarantee Reserve's innovative marketing and distribution approach would open up new growth opportunities for Irish Life's existing US business and he predicted that the acquisition would be earnings enhancing in 1997. In September, Irish Life reported a 20 per cent jump in its key profit indicator — embedded value earnings — to £14.48 million for the first half of 1996.

Jones & Shipman steady

JONES & SHIPMAN, the machine tools manufacturer, reported pre-tax profits of £609,000 for the six months to September 30, little changed from £619,000 in the first half of the previous year. Earnings were 2.1p a share (2.1p). The interim dividend is 0.5p a share (nil). The shares fell 2.5p to 41.5p. Turnover increased to £9.4 million from £8.9 million. The company, which exports about two thirds of output, said that the strengthening of the pound would inevitably have an adverse impact on sales and profits.

GE raises dividend

AMERICA'S General Electric Co has increased its quarterly dividend and share repurchase programme, and announced a 2-for-1 stock split. GE's board voted to lift the quarterly dividend 13 per cent to 52 cents a share from 46 cents a share, payable on January 27. GE also increased its share repurchase programme from \$9 billion to \$13 billion and extended the programme through 1998. This allows GE to continue its daily stock purchases at an annual rate of \$3 billion to \$3.5 billion through 1998.

Joint venture for GA

GENERAL ACCIDENT has announced the formation of a joint venture company to exploit the fast-growing Indonesian insurance market. Based in Jakarta, the new company will write general insurance and will be 60 per cent owned by GA and 40 per cent by PT Omertaco Arthaagama. It will have a paid up capital of £4 million. Omertaco is a conglomerate with interests in Indonesia which include financial services, infrastructure and consumer products.

SME's £27m landfill deal

SHANKS & McEWAN (SME), the waste management company, is paying Hanson a total of £27 million for the freehold of five landfill sites it currently leases, and additional unconsented landfill space in separate transactions. SME is paying £15 million for five sites located in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Cambridgeshire. It will also acquire an additional 20 million cubic metres of unconsented landfill void at four sites for £12 million, and has pledged a further £5 million towards road improvements.

London Merchant firm

LONDON Merchant Securities, the property development and investment company with interests in the leisure sector, is paying an unchanged interim dividend of 0.5p a share, after reporting pre-tax profits of £15.1 million for the half-year to September 30. In the first half of the previous year profits were £25.9 million, which included a £17 million gain from the sale of part of the company's shareholding in First Leisure Corporation. Earnings were 3.69p a share (7.58p).

Duller look for Armour

PRE-TAX profits at Armour Trust, the industrial holding company with interests in the automotive, chemicals and personal care sectors, fell to £539,000 in the half year to November 1 from £1.3 million in the first half of the previous year, reflecting the impact of the disposal of the confectionery division. Earnings fell to 0.7p a share from 2.5p, and the interim dividend is being held at 0.46p a share. Trading profits from continuing operations dropped to £1 million from £1.3 million.

Warner Estate advances

WARNER Estate Holdings, the diversified UK property investment company, lifted net assets to 259p a share from 235p in the year to September 30. Pre-tax profits rose to £16.18 million from £14.22 million and earnings increased to 15.92p a share from 13.85p. The total dividend is increased to 12.2p a share from 11.75p, with a final of 8.2p. The company said that the recovery in net assets was attributable mainly to the increase in the stock market value of its investment in The Bradford Property Trust. The shares rose 9p to 197.4p.

EU-funded regeneration projects 'stifled by lack of strategy'.

Mersey revival plan off the beat

By MATTHEW WALL

MERSEYSIDE'S attempts at social and economic regeneration are being stifled by lack of strategy, sloppy monitoring and bureaucracy, a consultants' report concludes.

Merseyside was designated an Objective One region eligible for European Union Structural Fund support in 1993. In spite of being half-way through a six-year £628 million regeneration programme funded by the European Union just 3 per cent of the job-creation target and only 8 per cent of the private sector investment target has been achieved, according to Pieda, the consultants commissioned by the Government Office for Merseyside, which is responsible for overseeing the programme.

Just 17 per cent of people trained through European-funded vocational courses have gone on to get jobs, says Pieda, and it is "very unlikely" that the companies are able to pay all their known overheads



Liverpool city centre and river, the heart of Merseyside

is unclear how much it has to do with European funding rather than improvement in the UK economy.

Approvals of projects are subject to "considerable delays" and there has been a lack of integration and co-operation between related projects.

Pieda also says the monitoring committee, part of the Objective One Secretariat in the Government Office for Merseyside, has failed to keep a sufficiently close eye on the progress of major projects. John Stoaker, chairman of the monitoring committee, and several others

become deputy director of the Office of the National Lottery (Oflot) early next year.

Small businesses have been largely ignored, especially since two of the three Business Links set up in the region specifically to help small businesses have gone bust. But the Merseyside Special Investment Fund, a source of venture capital funding for small businesses, is proving useful and popular.

In spite of the criticisms, Pieda concludes that the economic regeneration model being used is "broadly correct" and that it should deliver the targets of 3 per cent per capita increase in gross domestic product, and 16,000 net new jobs eventually.

A project that is proving successful is the Pathways scheme, where disadvantaged local communities have a say in developing job-creation strategies in their areas. This "bottom-up" approach circumvents much of the bureau-

Gilts and equities move higher

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Let



CHOICE 1
Carols galore: the choirs congregate on the South Bank



CHOICE 2
The LSO plays songs from shows by Sondheim and others

VENUE: This weekend, Festival Hall, QEH

VENUE: Tonight and Sunday at the Barbican

LONDON

MUSIC IN THE CITY A hectic musical weekend at the London Schools begins with a concert by the London Sinfonietta and Orchestra under Marin Alsop. Stars from some of the musicals currently playing in the West End join the LSO and the English Chamber Orchestra in a concert of music from shows, including *Musical of the Night* and *All I Ask of You* from *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Sorcerer* and *Moby-Dick*. Royal Festival Hall, St. Martin's Lane, EC2 (0171-438 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm; repeated on Sunday, 7.30pm.

STILLE NACHT, HEILIGE NACHT Join the Lester Schulman Ensemble for a Christmas concert with an Austrian flavour in a programme of waltzes and songs performed against a backdrop of Austrian scenes. The ensemble is joined by the Purple High School girls' choir. Tickets £12.50 in this year's Salisbury Chor of the Year competition. The programme includes the eponymous carol, as well as music by Schubert, Mozart, Brahms, Glinka, Schubert, Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-980 4242). Tomorrow, 7.45pm.

CAROL BY CANDLELIGHT Future lectures on the South Bank include a concert by the Mozart Festival Orchestra, conducted by Ian Wilson, at the Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-980 4242). Tomorrow, 7.45pm.

CAROL BY CANDLELIGHT Future lectures on the South Bank include a concert by the Mozart Festival Orchestra, conducted by Ian Wilson, at the Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-980 4242). Tomorrow, 7.45pm.

ART Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay and Ken Stott in an exceptionally interesting drama about a group of unemployed actors and an absent wife, Matthew Warchus directs Wyndham's *Charing Cross Road*, WC2 (0171-365 1738). Tues-Sat, 8pm; matins Wed, Sun, 3pm. Sun, 5pm.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST The Oxford Playhouse presents one of the very best in the country. Laurence Boswell directs this year's, with marketing and automatic staffing the Beast. The Cut, 0171-828 6363. Various times, 10.30am, 2.30pm, 7pm. First Friday 1pm.

THE CHERRY ORCHARD Tremendous RSC cast, headed by Penelope Wilton, Alice McDowall and David Morrissey. In a production by Adrian Noble, considered the best in living memory. Albany, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-365 1730). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Wed, Sat, 3pm.

A DOLL'S HOUSE No supertitles here. Julian Fellowes in Anthony Minghella's first-class production of Ibsen's proto-feminist drama. Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-829 4401). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Sat, 3pm.

GUMMI AND DOLLS Richard Eyre leads his laudable production of the Frank Loesser musical *Imelda*. Staunton recreates her role of Miss

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Moxey

Dressed in 18th-century costumes, the orchestra offers an evening of favourite tunes from the period, including, oboe, cello, French horn, trumpet, and the Mozart Festival Chorus. Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-980 4242). Sunday, 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BARNSTAPLE Arts Barn stars as Aladdin in a production that promises comedy, magic, fun, fantasy and pageantry. Directed by Miller Margotta, Queen's, Buxton Street (01271 242423). Opens today, 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Then Tues, 2.30pm and 7.30pm; Sun, 2.30pm, 6pm. Not yet. Prices £10-£12. January 6 and 7. Until January 11.

CARDIFF Moscow City Ballet's Christmas programme features two much-loved ballets: *Swan Lake* (mat. Sat, 7.30pm) and *Swan Lake* (mat. Dec 24-26), and *Cinderella* (from January 2-5). With the National Ballet Orchestra, St David's Hall, (01222 878444). Mon-

Sat, 2.30pm (except Jan 2) and 7.30pm; Sun, 5pm. Until January 5.

LEEDS The British soprano Kathryn Harrison stars in two concert of French music, with Opera North. Yves Abel conducts the English Northern Philharmonia. The programme includes Berlioz's solo cantata, *Le Mort de Cléopâtre*, and extracts from *Les Troyens*, Debussy's *Nocturnes* and Chausson's *Poème de l'Amour et du Discord dans le Royaume des Oiseaux*. Grand, 46 New Bridge (0113-245 9051). Today and tomorrow, 7.15pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

ALBERTINE COULE STUDIO SIGHT (0171-439 1952) *Albertine* is a production that promises comedy, magic, fun, fantasy and pageantry. Directed by Miller Margotta, Queen's, Buxton Street (01271 242423). Opens today, 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Then Tues, 2.30pm and 7.30pm; Sun, 2.30pm, 6pm. Not yet. Prices £10-£12. January 6 and 7. Until January 11.

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THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House full, returns only

Some seats available

Seats at all prices

Adelaide.

New York (Chorus), South Bank, SE1 (0171-250 2222). Tues-Sat, 7.30pm; mat. Tues, Wed, Thurs, 2pm; Sat, 2.30pm.

LAUGHTER ON THE 22ND

FLOOR! Ned Smart's funny account of working among a team of scriptwriters for comedian Sid Caesar back in the 1950s. Gielgud Theatre, 9 St. Martin's Lane (0171-939 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat. Tues and Sat, 3pm.

LONG RUNNERS

EL GRECO (0171-494 5080) *El Greco* is subtitled "The Songs of Love and Sorrow". Hill Broadway compilation show celebrating a successful songwriting team.

PLAYS OF WISDOM (0171-939 0355)

WITNESS (0171-939 0355)

WIT



■ POP 1

To hell and back: Peter Green, founder of Fleetwood Mac, returns to the live stage



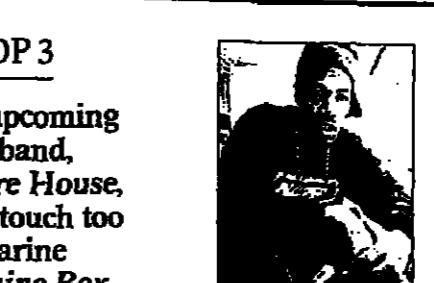
■ POP 2

At Wembley Tina Turner defies the passing years with a typically high-voltage show



■ POP 3

The upcoming Irish band, Picture House, are a touch too saccharine on *Shine Box*



■ POP 4

Hardcore rap, spiced with a modicum of wit, is supplied on Redman's latest, *Muddy Waters*

MARTIN BEDDALL

You could say he's a man of the world

And now for the good news — after years in the twilight zone, Peter Green is back, and playing that sweet blues guitar again. Nigel Williamson reports

We live in the era of the comeback, but few have been more emotional than the return of Peter Green, the founder of Fleetwood Mac. Once one of the most feted guitarists in British rock, Green became the ultimate acid casualty, and spent time over a period of years in mental hospitals and clinics undergoing electro-convulsive therapy. He gave away much of his money and slept rough. His wildly unpredictable behaviour was splashed across the tabloid press and he acknowledges that his illness was brought on by hallucinogenic drugs which his delicate mental equilibrium could not handle.

Today Green is 50, and lives in semi-rural Surrey with caring friends who have helped him inch his way back towards normality. His behaviour is no longer frightening, although he remains eerily eccentric. Last summer he began a tentative comeback with a festival appearance in Guildford and a few low-key dates in Germany. Now he is embarking on a major tour of Britain for the first time in nearly two decades.

The first thing you notice on meeting Green is the delicacy of his handshake. "I have to look after my fingers because I'm supposed to play a bit," says the man who B.B. King once described as the only white guitarist — Clapton included — who sent shivers up his spine.

The modesty is genuine. He complains that promoters insist on billing "the legendary Peter Green" above his band, the Splinter Group, and he looks forward to renewed success so that his name can be dropped. "That's what

happened before. It was originally called Peter Green's Fleetwood Mac — but when we made it big my name disappeared."

And they were big. By 1969, after a string of hits such as *Black Magic Woman* and *Man of the World*, Fleetwood Mac were voted Britain's best band by readers of *New Musical Express*. But by May the following year it was not only Green's name which had disappeared. "It was a free dom thing. I wanted to go and live on a commune in Germany. In the end I never did, but I had to get away. Acid had a lot to do with it."

The drugs tipped Green over the edge, into what was eventually diagnosed as schizophrenia. He stopped making music, gave his guitars away (many of his most treasured possessions ended up in an Oxfam shop) and went into a steep and rapid decline. He was eventually committed to hospital, but today tells the harrowing story dispassionately. "I was throwing things around and smashing things up. I smashed the car windscreen. The police took me to the station and asked me if I wanted to go to hospital. I said yes because I didn't feel safe going back anywhere else."

What followed was a nightmare. "They gave me tranquillisers and I didn't really know much about it. It was a struggle just to stay awake. You don't know what you are doing. You don't feel alive..."

The man who once horrified his business managers by giving away

Michelle Reynolds, in whose house Green now lives, says: "Sometimes he would stand in the garden with me for hours and not say a word. The hospital had him on 17 pills a day. One day he decided to stop. We told him to scale down slowly, but he decided to stop them altogether. That was an incredibly strong thing to do."

Green knows that he will never be what most people would describe as completely normal. "I still hear voices in my head," he says. "It is only one voice, a woman I met in the hospital. There were some scary people there and she is pretty heavy, but I haven't heard her for a bit."

When he made it back from the brink, he started to play the guitar for the first time in years. "It hurt my fingers at first and I am still learning," Green says. "What I have discovered is simplicity. Back to basics. I used to worry and make things very complicated. Now I keep it simple."

The next step was a band. Among others, the veteran session drummer Cozy Powell and guitarist Nigel Watson, Reynolds's brother, were enlisted. Now, Green seems to be as contented as a man who has been to hell and back can be. He is affable and clearly enjoys playing again. "It isn't work," he says. "Work and music don't mix. It has to be pleasure or else I can't do it."

The man who once horrified his business managers by giving away

much of his fortune says that today he has no idea what he is worth: the royalties are still rolling in but he leaves others to take care of the finances. "I'm told that I have enough and I have started collecting guitars," he says. "If I want a new one I can go out and buy it and if I want to buy a new car I can."

Sadly, he has not yet resumed his songwriting — "I don't feel I have anything I need to say in a song" — and he is also ambivalent about the handful of his classics which the new band performs. "We do *Albatross*, *Black Magic Woman* and *Green Manilishi*, but I only play the rhythm on *Albatross*," he says. "I don't want it to be Fleetwood Mac again."

His natural diffidence means that Green finds it hard to cope with being treated as a rock legend. "So far it has been OK but I haven't really been back long enough to say."

There will be a live album from the new tour, "mostly blues stuff I enjoy doing, things like *Goin' Down* and a couple of Robert Johnson songs". But Green then resurrects a 1960s chestnut, much debated in student union bars of the time. "White men can't really play the blues," he says adamantly. When pressed, he concedes that Clapton "doesn't do badly", but seems incredulous that his own work should be rated alongside great black American guitarists.

Finally, given what he has been through, would he turn back the clock? "There would be no point," he says. "I'd only do the same things all over again."

• Peter Green and the Splinter Group play the Shepherds Bush Empire on Sunday



"White men can't really play the blues," says Peter Green, a legendary exception to his own rule



Tina Turner: continuing to defy the passage of time

Icon for all tastes

Tina Turner
Wembley Arena

THE dresses grow shorter as the stilettos get higher as she grows older. In another three years she will qualify for the free bus pass but Tina Turner continues to defy the passage of time, scornful critics and all known logic.

She appeals to several different audiences: mainstream rockers, the old soul crowd and those drawn by the appeal of the feminist icon — the woman who 20 years ago walked out on an abusive marriage, deep in debt and living on food stamps, who came back from rock bottom to scale the peaks and prove that sisters can do it for themselves.

Thus it is no surprise that she can still sell out Wembley Arena for three successive nights. She came on stage blowing kisses and screeching like an overexcited teenager, and at 57 she is blessed with more energy than many half her age. She went straight into *River Deep, Mountain High* while the huge screen behind her showed footage of her belting out the song on *Ready Steady Go!* or some such show 30 years ago. Amazingly, she looks better today than she did then, and whether it is HRT, cosmetic surgery or some secret magic elixir hardly matters.

Yet she doesn't dance quite as frenetically as of old and there was a major shock in store. At one point a high stool appeared and she sat down through four entire songs. Musically that was the most satisfying segment of the show. Her voice does not have the depth of Aretha Franklin's, but there is a fine, gritty blues power when she sings such soul classics as *Let's Stay Together* and *I Can't Stand the Rain*, and the voice is at its best when she sings her flailing body.

REDMAN
Muddy Waters
(Def Jam/Mercury 533 470)
£15.49

RAP has become such an integral part of pop this year that you hardly notice it as such among the catchy choruses and upbeat messages of songs by the Fugees or Spice Girls. But the hardcore stuff still has a somewhat jarring effect on ears not tuned in to the tongue-twisting jargon and spleenetic aggression of its more macho protagonists.

Although New York rapper Redman remains stuck in the second division, he is wittier than many. His key preoccupation, however, is with the apparently limitless wonders of smoking dope, a theme which acts like magnetic north on the compass guiding him through *Muddy Waters*. On tracks such as *Whatever Man*, *Smoke Buddah* and *Rollin'* (which recalls the old *Rawhide* theme), what he says as man's right to take the weed is vigorously upheld. Small wonder, perhaps, that the

rest was the familiar, stomping, storming formula as she ran through 20 songs, old and new. Encouragingly much of the material on the new album *Wildest Dreams* is as strong as anything she has recorded since the early 1980s. A rousing finale gave us *Addicted to Love*, *Simply the Best* and *What's Love Got To Do With It?* She will probably sound even better by the time she gets that bus pass.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

From early morning to late at night, it's been a great year for pop-pickers

How best to sum up a whole year's worth of music in a few hundred words? I know — compress the glories of 1996 into a hypothetical day of ear-frazzling record joy!

We start at sunrise, 8am, and in need of the jangly bliss of the Bluetones' *Expecting to Fly*, with its Byrdsian harmonies and witty insouciance. Similar breeziness comes from Dodgy's Glassbury-on-vinyl *Free Peace Sweet and Suede's* zestful *Coming Up*. Now we're up to lunch. What better way to speed the digestion of a crisp sandwich and a bag of frittered Crunchie bars than Gabrielle's astonishingly under-rated *Gabrielle*. OK, she didn't spend that long on the title, but every other detail is as meticulous as the vision is sweeping. The songs that weren't released as singles are even better than the ones that were.

The afternoon and early evening mean that things can get a little faster, and a little darker. *Ugly Beautiful's* *Handbag* has the requisite amount of pop shimmer, but the surface breaks frequently into a world of lop-sided beats and fractured loops. Babybird's American counterpart, Beck, did much the same thing on his *Delayed*, but more twisted and feverish.

Things get darker, stickier and more frantic on Strangecove's *Love and Other Demons*. Full of gothic grandeur, elegant shivers and almost incoherent rage,

your spine will be in a state of break-heats. Then, when you've got back from the corner shop with your fags and beans, stick the Fugees' *The Score* on and spend a velvet hour smoking your fag and wondering what a fag-geila is.

It's midnight now, and you

were better to help you through it than the Aloof, and a trio with more come-downs than a charity parachutist. *The Sinking* is the second finest of all the fine records of 1996 — while being breathlessly modern and sleek with glossy samples and thunderous loops, it also seems suspended and out of time.

As it's around 9pm by now, it's suitably scary outside for the Prodigy's single, *Firestarter* to crush

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your spine with its break-beats. Then, when you've got back from the corner shop with your fags and beans, stick the Fugees' *The Score* on and spend a velvet hour smoking your fag and wondering what a fag-geila is.

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Court of Appeal

Law Report December 20 1996

Queen's Bench Division

Whether building work is construction or alteration

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Marchday Holdings Ltd
Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Ward
Judgment December 11

Work carried out on an existing building could amount to more than its conversion, reconstruction, alteration or enlargement so as to be zero-rated under the Value Added Tax Act 1993.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment by a majority. Lord Justice Ward dissenting, dismissed an appeal by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise from the dismissal by Mr Justice Laws ([1995] STC 988) of their appeal against a decision of a VAT tribunal in favour of Marchday Holdings Ltd.

Mr Nigel Fleming, QC, for the commissioners; Mr Roderick Cordara, QC, and Miss Perdita Cargill-Thompson for Marchday.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH said that the tribunal had allowed the company's appeal against a decision of the commissioners regarding the treatment for value-added tax purposes of a construction project carried out by the company at 44-52 Banner Street, City of London.

The question at issue concerned the entitlement of the company to input tax credit which depended on whether the supply to which it was attributable, namely, the supply of a major interest in, or in any part of the building, was zero-rated under item 1 of group 4 of Schedule 5 to the VATA 1993.

That turned on whether the company was a "person constructing a building" within item 1 or whether the case fell within the exclusion in note 5(a) to item 1. The commissioners held that it fell within the exclusion and was therefore standard-rated, the tribunal that it did not fall within the exclusion and was zero-rated.

Where a supply was zero-rated within section 16(3) of the 1983 Act the consequences, by section 16(1), were that no tax would be charged on the supply, but in all other respects it would be treated as a taxable supply. The result was that the taxpayer would be entitled to credit in respect of input tax upon supplies made to him in connection with the supply.

The judge rejected that submission. His Lordship agreed with the judge. Mr Fleming's construction

with zero-rated supplies made by him.

Section 16(2) provides: "A supply of goods or services is zero-rated by virtue of this subsection if the goods or services are of a description for the time being specified in Schedule 5 to this Act or the supply is of a description for the time being so specified."

The relevant part of Schedule 5 was group 8, the material items of which were:

"The granting by a person constructing a building of a major interest in, or in any part of the building..."

"The supply in the course of the construction or demolition of any building..."

By note 5(a) to those items: "Any reference in item 2 ... to the construction of any building ... does not include a reference to (a) the conversion, reconstruction, alteration or enlargement of any existing building..."

The answer was in *Customs and Excise Commissioners v Vivo Gas Appliances Ltd* ([1983] STC 823), where Lord Diplock had said: "construction ... includes the building of a whole and demolishing something destroying it as a whole, so 'alteration' is left to cover all the works in the fabric of the building which fall short of complete erection or complete demolition."

If fact and degree determined "construction" why should it not also determine "demolition"? That would cause havoc in the building industry.

When the home owner wished to have a grand large drawing room in place of his small front room and his back parlour, was that a work of conversion of the existing building?

The tribunal said: "The question which we must ask ourselves is whether the work done amounted to the conversion, reconstruction, alteration or enlargement of the existing building ... or whether the end result is a new building."

It was Mr Fleming's submission that the tribunal fell into error in considering whether the end result was a new building. The sole question, he contended, was whether there had been a conversion, reconstruction, alteration or enlargement of the building that existed before any work was done.

The judge rejected that submission. His Lordship agreed with the judge. Mr Fleming's construction

with zero-rated supplies made by him.

Mr Cordara was correct in submitting that the reference in note 5(a)(b) to existing buildings supported the conclusion that what had still be there after the conversion, alteration or enlargement of the building was not a matter of concern since had to be described as the existing building.

A reasonable man who was fully informed as to the work carried out should be able to say whether or not the old building had been altered. That was a just question and was very much a question of fact, degree and impression.

Lord Justice Aldous agreed.

LORD JUSTICE WARD, dissenting, said that nowhere did the tribunal ask the question which was the prerequisite for treating the supplies as zero-rated: the case was true only if the building in the United Kingdom, was not devised in order to implement Community law.

Mr Justice Laws, sitting in the Queen's Bench Division, so held, in a reserved judgment given in Leeds, dismissing an application for judicial review by frozen meat exporters. First City Trading Ltd, Great Marketing Services (UK) Ltd, Meat Markets (Wholesale) Ltd, Cargill August Ltd, Weddel Swift Ltd and Swallow Foods International, against the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) and the Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce (IBAP), in respect of the beef stocks transfer scheme which provided financial aid to meat exporters with slaughtering and cutting facilities in response to the Commission decision.

The applicants challenged the legality of the scheme on the ground that it discriminated unfairly and without any objective justification in favour of meat exporters with their own slaughtering and cutting-up facilities to the detriment of exporters such as the applicants without such facilities and that the scheme was thus in breach of the fundamental principle of Community law, namely, the principle of equal treatment or non-discrimination.

Mr Nicholas Green for the applicants; Mr Kenneth Parker, QC, for MAFF and IBAP.

EC principles do not apply to domestic law

Regina v Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and Another, Ex parte First City Trading and Others
Before Mr Justice Laws
Judgment November 29

The fundamental principles of European Community law as formulated by the European Court of Justice such as equal treatment and non-discrimination, had no application to an action or a decision taken by a member state under domestic law unless and to the extent that the decision was taken in order to implement powers conferred by the European Community law.

In deciding whether the Community rule applied to the scheme, His Lordship had first to consider what was the correct test by which to resolve the question.

Mr Green relied on the European Court of Justice decision in Case C-92/92 *Phil Collins v Intrat Handelsgesellschaft mbH* ([1993] 3 CMLR 773) where the court held that the German national law of copyright fell within the scope of the EC Treaty which prohibited discrimination on the ground of nationality.

Mr Green also relied on *R v Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food* ex parte *Humble Fisheries* ([1995] 2 All ER 714) for the proposition that where a national measure operated in a Community context, the measure's legality was subject to the fundamental principles of Community law; and that the test for implementation of Community law, was as wide as the general principles of Community law.

These fundamental principles, including proportionality and legitimate expectation, were not provided for on the face of the EC Treaty. They had been developed by the European Court out of the administrative law of the member states and were part of the common law.

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EDUCATION

Times guide to the top research universities

John O'Leary explains how research teams have been graded and how to read the ratings

Official ratings published today of Britain's research universities, produced by subject specialists for the four higher education funding councils, will make or break the reputations of thousands of academics and affect the budgets of whole universities. It includes a new grade for research of international excellence.

Panels of leading researchers in 69 subjects

have spent much of the past year judging their colleagues' work. The membership was drawn from learned societies, subject associations and other expert groups.

The assessments, the first for four years, graded research teams on a seven-point scale. This ranged

from 5th departments with a majority of work reaching levels of international excellence to those with a rating of 1, which were found to have virtually no research of national significance.

The listing below covers only those in the top two categories. Departments that did badly are,

therefore, not listed. Universities and colleges could enter as many or as few staff as they chose to have assessed, but the proportion entered will have implications for future funding levels.

Those entering at least 95 per cent of staff are marked A, 80-94 per cent B, 60-79 per cent C, 40-

per cent D, 20-39 per cent E and below 20 per cent F. The third column of figures shows the number of "research active" staff, expressed as full-time equivalent posts.

● The full report of the 1996 Research Assessment Exercise is available, price £15, from External Relations, HEFCE, Northavon House, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol BS16 1QD.

CHARLIE BIBBY/NEWSTEAM



Throwing new light on research: Professor Kay Davies of Oxford University's bio-chemistry department at work in her laboratory

Will quest for new frontiers be lost?

Dan Cohn-Sherbok
reports on the fears in the
corridors of academia

Since October one of my friends who teaches at another university has been a complete wreck. He rings me every week to discuss his situation. He is a distinguished and prolific scholar, who, two years ago, was appointed to a well-deserved personal chair. However, as a result of the Research Assessment Exercise, he fears that his department may be closed down.

His colleagues publish very little and his department received a D rating last time. My friend was convinced that despite his own productivity the same would happen again. "Look," he said, "our vice-chancellor has just announced that he intends to do away with any departments that get less than a 3rd; that means I'll be out of a job. I was an idiot to give up tenure just to get a chair. Do you realise I'll only get a week's salary for every year I've worked here if I'm made redundant. And how on earth in the present climate am I going to get another job? I'll end up being a taxi-driver."

My friend's perilous situation is an extreme case, but academics around the country were all worried by the RAE process. Last week I overheard a group of lecturers in my own senior commonroom discuss the situation. Because departments are to be rated in absolute terms against a set of specific criteria, one of the more optimistic participants was convinced that the ratings would be generally higher and everyone would be safe. "It's inevitable," he insisted, "if all departments are trying to improve, then the ratings will go up, in the same way that GCSE and A-level results have steadily got better. We'll all be awarded a higher grade than we had last time."

Another academic, however, offered a far

gloomier prognosis. "It won't be like that," he said. "I don't think we have improved that much and, whatever they say, they'll judge us against each other. In any case, there's a fixed amount of money, so it's just a case of how the cake is divided. Even if we've given a higher grade, the department may still get less money."

There are fears, too, about the objectivity of those on the evaluation panels. In principle, those appointed to such bodies are above reproach and, in any case, various safeguards have been built into the system. Nonetheless it is always a mistake to underestimate the vanity of academics. Many are convinced that personal animosities and prejudices will still play a role.

These are universal concerns. Academics are feeling very threatened. The possibility of departmental closure hangs over many and even those lecturers who have managed to retain employment tenure are frightened that they will be moved to areas where they have little expertise and where they will be burdened with enormous teaching loads.

Over the past year expert panels have been responsible for the process of assessment. The scale of excellence runs from 1 (the worst) to 5th (the best). Those who have been given the bottom score are deemed to have produced virtually no

worthwhile research at all. Those who have achieved the highest level are judged to have published work of *international distinction*. To have been awarded the various points in between called for varying degrees of international and national excellence. On the basis of such ratings, funding will be distributed to the universities, creating both winners and losers.

Not surprisingly, this scheme has provoked considerable dismay in both the old and the new universities. Even those in departments which did well in the last exercise several years ago have been deeply concerned that their ratings will slip and, as a result, funding will be lost.

Aware of such dangers, vice-chancellors have been keen to poach high-powered researchers from other institutions so as to boost the ratings of favoured subjects. Such league-table mentality has profoundly altered the nature of academic life in Britain. Academics are encouraged to target prestigious journals in the hope, not of pressing forward into new areas of exploration, but of improving scores. The idea of knowledge for its own sake has been set aside in the quest for good results and more money.

The Government insists that this spirit of competition will produce more and better research. Its case has yet to be proved; what is certain is that scholars no longer pursue learning for the love of it or to advance the frontiers of human understanding. Instead, the academic environment is fast becoming a dog-eat-dog world.

● The author teaches at the University of Kent and is visiting Professor at the universities of Wales, Lampeter and Middlesex.

Subject & university	Grade	Number entered	
CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES			
Royal Postgraduate Medical School	5 th A	363	
Institute of Cancer Research	B — Biological Clinical Laboratory Sciences	248	
B — Medical Physics	5 th A	168	
Oxford	A — Clinical Laboratory Sciences	5 th B	404
B — Clinical Pathology	5 th B	210	
Cambridge	5 th A	70	
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine	5 th B	49.8	
University College London	Tropical Medicine	5 th A	84.5
Brunei	5 th C	28.8	
COMMUNITY-BASED CLINICAL SUBJECTS			
Cambridge	5 th A	26.0	
King's College — Institute of Psychiatry	5 th B	51.1	
Queen Mary and Westfield College	5 th A	11.1	
Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine	5 th B	23.1	
University College London	5 th A	49.8	
Brunei	5 th B	47.8	
HOSPITAL-BASED CLINICAL SUBJECTS			
Oxford	5 th A	179.0	
Imperial College — National Heart and Lung Institute	5 th A	85.5	
University College London — Institute of Orthopaedics	5 th A	24.0	
Royal Postgraduate Medical School	5 th A	120.0	
Edinburgh	5 th A	60.0	
Cardiff	5 th A	60.0	
University College London — Institute of Neurology	5 th A	53.3	
Exeter	5 th C	11.5	
University College London — Institute of Child Health	5 th B	97.2	
CLINICAL DENTISTRY			
UCLD Guy's and St Thomas's Hospitals	5 th B	48.2	
University College London — Eastern Dental Institute	5 th B	41.5	
Manchester	5 th B	36.5	
PRE-CLINICAL STUDIES			
Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine	5 th B	23.4	
ANATOMY			
University College London	5 th A	52.4	
Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine	5 th A	6.9	
Birmingham	5 th B	8.0	
Cardiff	5 th B	10.1	
Oxford	5 th A	15.8	
Liverpool	5 th B	12.0	
PHYSIOLOGY			
Liverpool	5 th B	13.0	
Oxford	5 th B	20.5	
Bristol	5 th C	22.0	
Newcastle upon Tyne	5 th C	19.0	
Cambridge	5 th C	22.0	
PHARMACOLOGY			
University College London	5 th A	105	
Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine	5 th B	86	
Leicester	5 th B	125	
Cambridge	5 th B	20.5	
Brighton	5 th B	17.5	
Oxford	5 th B	17.5	
Liverpool	5 th B	16.0	
PHARMACY			
Nottingham	5 th A	21.0	
Bath	5 th B	44.0	
Manchester	5 th B	24.0	
Institute of Cancer Research	5 th A	15.0	
School of Pharmacy	5 th B	37.0	
West of England	5 th C	20.7	
NURSING			
King's College London	5 th B	32.0	
OTHER STUDIES AND PROFESSIONS ALLIED TO MEDICINE			
Southampton (Nutrition)	5 th A	7.5	
Sheffield (Biostatistics)	5 th C	22.0	
Wales, Cardiff	5 th C	14.0	
Loughborough	5 th A	6.0	
Brunei (Toxicology)	5 th C	24.3	
BIOCHEMISTRY			
Oxford	5 th A	51.5	
Cambridge	5 th B	25.0	
Dundee	5 th B	20.5	
Leeds	5 th B	20.5	
Bristol	5 th B	23.0	
Manchester	5 th B	43.7	
Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine	5 th B	24.0	
University College London	5 th B	24.0	
Bath	5 th B	36.0	
Cardiff (Molecular Genetics)	5 th C	20.0	
AGRICULTURE			
Reading (Plant Sciences)	5 th B	25.5	
Nottingham	5 th B	61.5	
Cambridge	5 th B	36.0	
Newcastle upon Tyne	5 th B	24.0	
Sheffield	5 th B	36.0	
The Queen's Belfast	5 th B	17.0	
FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY			
Nottingham	5 th A	90.0	
UCLD (Food)	5 th A	12.0	
CHEMISTRY			
Oxford	5 th A	120	
Cambridge	5 th A	48.0	
Imperial College, London	5 th A	43.0	
Bath	5 th A	41.0	
Leeds	5 th B	34.5	
Edinburgh	5 th B	32.0	
Soton	5 th B	29.0	
Birmingham	5 th B	25.0	
Nottingham	5 th B	25.0	
Durham	5 th B	10.0	
PHYSICS			
Cambridge	5 th A	111.0	
Oxford	5 th B	107.0	
Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine	5 th A	82.2	
University College London	5 th A	63.0	
Bath	5 th B	46.0	
Leeds	5 th B	41.0	
Edinburgh	5 th B	41.0	
Soton	5 th B	39.5	
Birmingham	5 th B	35.0	
Nottingham	5 th B	35.0	
Brunei	5 th B	35.0	
MATERIALS			
Cambridge	5 th A	20.0	
Oxford	5 th B	18.0	
Brunei	5 th B	18.0	
Cambridge	5 th B	17.0	
Sheffield	5 th B	12.5	
Nottingham	5 th B	12.5	
Leeds	5 th B	11.5	
Cardiff	5 th B	10.0	
STATISTICS AND OPERATIONAL RESEARCH			
Warwick	5 th A	14.0	
Bristol	5 th B	8.0	
Queen Mary and Westfield College	5 th C	7.3	
COMPUTER SCIENCE			
Warwick	5 th A	14.0	
Bristol	5 th B	8.0	
Queen Mary and Westfield College	5 th B	8.0	
Exeter	5 th C	7.3	
Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine	5 th B	7.0	
Southampton (Operational Research)	5 th B	7.0	
BUILT ENVIRONMENT			
Warwick	5 th A	91.2	
Reading	5 th B	21.	

DRUGS IN SPORT

De Merode demands reduction in bans

By JOHN GOODBODY

THE Olympic Games' leading drugs official yesterday condemned the strict sanctions against cheating competitors as "excessive" and recommended a two-year ban.

The controversial views of Prince Alexandre de Merode were immediately condemned by the British Athletics Federation (BAF), which last year persuaded other countries to keep a four-year suspension for a serious doping offence.

The prince, the long-serving president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) medical commission, said: "The level of sanctions is, in my opinion, excessive. In some respects, it is completely obsolete and, if we really want to be realistic today, it is necessary to reform sanctions."

"Strict sanctions were appropriate when we were dealing with top amateurs, but since sport has become a profession, we are faced with a major social problem. These sanctions have deep repercussions on people, and it is necessary to reform sanctions."

"I am amazed at what de Merode says. His suggestion that there is any difference between professional and amateur is quite ludicrous. Money does not come into it." He said that de Merode was out of touch with the thinking at federation level, citing the huge majority for four years when it was voted on in Geneva.

The prince was being interviewed in the *Olympic Magazine*, which is published every three years by the IOC. He recommended varying gradations of sanctions. "Perhaps suspension [for a short time] that allows the person, in spite of everything, to practise his or her profession but with less intensity. By this, I mean forbidding them from competing in major international competitions."

He added that he thought economic sanctions were also necessary because "they are hard to take and accept. Finally, there should be a

measure that I would call educational, that is a special suspension during, for example, a period of one year. Altogether, the maximum sanction could be two years."

The IOC and the international federations that govern world sport are concerned at the growing number of civil court cases. Competitors, such as Katrin Krabbe, the former East German sprint world champion, have successfully claimed that a four-year suspension for a drug offence is a restraint of their trade.

However, at the congress of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) in 1995, the length of the ban was settled at four years for a first offence. This was largely due to a passionate and successful speech by Professor Peter Radford, the BAF's executive chairman.

Tony Ward, the BAF spokesman, said yesterday: "We will fight to keep four years all the way. Sport needs a collective will and we have that in athletics. Ask athletes in this country and they will prefer life bans."

"I am amazed at what de Merode says. His suggestion that there is any difference between professional and amateur is quite ludicrous. Money does not come into it." He said that de Merode was out of touch with the thinking at federation level, citing the huge majority for four years when it was voted on in Geneva.

The IAAF is not the strictest world governing body on doping offences. Weightlifting has an automatic life ban for a first offence for hormone drugs.



Ward: dismissive



Krabbe: appealed

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT
The final type of signal that I want to discuss in this refresher series is the "McKenney", or suit-preference, signal. Far and away the most important use is when you are giving your partner ruff. If you want him to return the higher-ranking of the other two suits (trumps in general being excluded), you return a high card; if you want him to return a lower-ranking suit, you return a low card.

An example. South opens 1 NT (12-14) and, after Stayman, becomes declarer in Four Spades. Your partner leads the two of clubs and, as East, this is what you see:

9	A Q E 3
V K 4	V A 6
4 5 3	4 K 10 8 3
W 2	W 7 5
E 8	E 4 K 6 2
S 10	S 4 A 10 5 4
N	N 7 6 5 4
W	W 8 6 3
E	E 10 5 4
S	S 4 A 9 7 4

You know that the lead is a singleton (declarer must have at least two clubs for his 1 NT opening and, if your partner had a doubleton, he would lead the higher one). So, you take the ace and return the four of clubs, requesting a shift to diamonds. That way, you will get in and give your partner his second ruff before declarer can draw trumps. Had you had the ace of hearts

instead of the ace of diamonds, you would have returned the nine of clubs when giving your partner his ruff. Modify the hand to:

9	A Q E 3
V K 4	V A 6
4 5 3	4 K 10 8 3
W 2	W 7 5
E 8	E 4 K 6 2
S 10	S 4 A 10 5 4
N	N 7 6 5 4
W	W 8 6 3
E	E 10 5 4
S	S 4 A 9 7 4

Again, your partner leads the two of clubs. Now, you have no quick entry, but you still return the nine of clubs. You can see that this will set up a second-round entry for you and, more important, it prevents your partner from making a perhaps disastrous switch into the declarer's diamond tenace.

Though you will not go far wrong if you confine suit-preference signals to the ruffing positions discussed today, many tournament players use the signals in other positions. For example, if you hold 9 6 2 and play the 2 to show an odd number on the first round of a suit, you can play the 9 or the 6 on the second round to send suit-preference messages. I will discuss an example of another use, in No-Trump contracts, next week.

□ Robert Sheehan writes Monday to Friday in Sport and in Weekend on Saturday.

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

TRESAIEL
a. A three-masted schooner
b. A grandfather's grandfather
c. Highland shamrock

UNWRASSTE
a. Worthless

TERGANT
a. A sailor ant
b. Angry
c. Turning the back

URUCU
a. An East African language
b. A chieftain

a. And joy

b. A sailor ant

c. Turning the back

d. A sailor ant

e. A sailor ant

f. A sailor ant

g. A sailor ant

h. A sailor ant

i. A sailor ant

j. A sailor ant

k. A sailor ant

l. A sailor ant

m. A sailor ant

n. A sailor ant

o. A sailor ant

p. A sailor ant

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RACING: SURVEY FINDS GROWING TIDE OF RECRUITS BELIEVES IN FUN BEFORE PROFIT

New owners bridge class divide

By RICHARD EVANS

RACING CORRESPONDENT

RACEHORSE ownership is no longer just a rich man's hobby. The Sport of Kings is fast becoming the sport of working people, attracted by the excitement and fun of the Turf.

The socio-economic profile of people with horses in training has shifted towards John Major's vision of a classless society with more blue-collar workers involved, according to a survey conducted for the British Horseracing Board (BHB) and Weatherbys.

During the past two years alone, the proportion of racehorses owned by social classes



Nap: HAY DANCE
(3.50 Hereford)
Next best: Mighty Moss
(3.40 Uttoxeter)

C1, C2, D and E — ranging from tycoots and shop assistants to bar staff and dustmen — has increased from 29 per cent to 37 per cent while professional people have cut back their equine interests.

Women also find it increasingly attractive to see their colours carried on the Turf. In 1996, 30 per cent of new owners were women whereas in 1978 there was only 18 per cent.

"The vast majority of owners pay for racehorses from earned income. If you go back 20 years that is something you were seeing less of," Lee Richardson, the BHB's marketing director, said.

"Owners in the vast major-

SOUND MAN (left) is unlikely to run in the Perceval King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day despite being among the 11 acceptors announced yesterday (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

Edward O'Grady, his trainer, said:

"Sound Man is an unlikely runner. He

is in great form, but will go for the

Comet Chase at Ascot on February 5.

and probably won't run again before them." Jenny Pitman has left in Nathaniel Lad despite his poor effort over hurdles at Bangor on Wednesday.

One Man is 13-8 on with William Hill to repeat last year's victory for Gordon Richards.

Other prices: 4-1

Rough Quest, 10-1 Barton Bank, 12-1

Mr Mulligan, Strong Promise. Trying Again, 16-1 bar.

The acceptors are Algan (trained by F Doumen, France), Barton Bank (D Nicholson), Could Be Better (C Brooks), Mr Mulligan (N Chance), Nathaniel Lad (Mrs J Pitman), Oasis Regrets (Miss H Knight), One Man (G Richards), Rough Quest (T Casey), Sound Man (E O'Grady, Ireland), Strong Promise (G Hubbard), Trying Again (D Gandofo).

11-4 PREMIER STAR 707 K Wiggles 6-1-2 P McNamee (3)

7-2 Hedges Walk, 9-2 Baloo Daughler, 5-1 Belhaven, Kedwell, 7-1 others

ity of cases are working people. They earn income and this is one way they choose to spend that income," he added.

A typical example of the new-breed of owner involves a group of Metropolitan Police officers who formed the Silver and Blue Racing Club so they could afford a horse.

While low levels of prize-money in Britain remain a primary concern of owners, the survey reveals that prize-money will always be an important fact, but this survey highlights it is just one of the factors," Richardson added.

Among established owners surveyed, 88 per cent offered excitement and fun as the main reason for continuing to have a horse — compared to 68 per cent two years ago when the first BHB-Weatherbys survey was conducted.

The trend has prompted the BHB target working men's

dubs and company social clubs to tap the potential source of new owners. Trainers will also be encouraged to visit local golf clubs because golf remains the most popular leisure pursuit of racehorse owners.

While low levels of prize-money in Britain remain a primary concern of owners, the survey reveals that

money will always be an important fact, but this survey highlights it is just one of the factors," Richardson added.

A longstanding interest in horses and racing were other reasons given for having a horse in training — plus the dream of owning a champion like Desert Orchid or Dancing Square.

Vets will also be asked to examine all placed horses and a random selection of other runners after each race.

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11-4 PREMIER STAR 707 K Wiggles 6-1-2 P McNamee (3)

Managing to survive on the merry-go-round



Cruyff in wide demand

Johan Cruyff put it well and wisely the other day. "I've always said that it wasn't out of the ordinary for a manager to come to a club and build a great team," he said. "It's enough to have good players and a little luck. As against that, to keep the club on top is always a little problematic."

Cruyff should know. Though Barcelona parted company with him this year after a long, torrid, contentious, sporadically successful reign, he remains in enormous demand. He could go back to his beloved Ajax if he wants, at the end of the season, when Louis van Gaal leaves.

Franz Beckenbauer, Cruyff's old friend and rival from the great days of Total Football, would like him at Bayern Munich. Spanish and Italian clubs are interested. This, despite the way he was perpetually at loggerheads with Barcelona's president, Josep Lluís Núñez, and often with such stars as Michael Laudrup and Hristo Stoichkov.

Even when Cruyff was in charge at Ajax, when young prodigies such as Marco van Basten worshipped him, his autocratic ways were such that Frank Rijkaard could not wait to get away.

So the myth and mystery of the manager remain. What should he do, what does he do? Should he crack the whip like Cruyff or Brian Clough? Should he be out on the training field, paying infinite attention to detail, as Roy Hodgson is doing in Milan with Internazionale, whose defence keeps collapsing just the same?

"Kind, but with a strong hand," Vittorio Pozzo, the great Italian老人 who won two World Cups between the wars, used to say. "If I let them make mistakes, I lose my authority." And he was often out on the training pitch.

Clough rarely was. As often as not, he might simply show up in the dressing-room just before a game. "Have you ever been punched in the stomach, young man?" he

asked his unlucky young centre forward, Nigel Jenison, now at Oxford United, on one such occasion: then suited the action to the words.

When he did turn up at the training ground, Peter Shilton — due to celebrate his 1,000th League appearance when he plays for Leyton Orient on Sunday — said that the impact was great. "It was attitude training."

With his remarkable partnership with the late Peter Taylor resembling nothing so much as football's version of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Clough had success with both Derby County and Nottingham Forest, none at all at Leeds United, where the players drove him out after 44 days, nor at Brighton, where he demoralised the team. What works at one place

does not necessarily work at others. Thus Joe Kinnear, who has worked wonders at Wimbledon, probably right to refuse lucrative offers and stay there. A kind of guerrilla general, he is utterly the right man for the job, defending club and team with sometimes excessive sensitivity.

When he mistakenly thought Gary Lineker had said Wimbledon were worth watching only on Cefax, Kinnear, feeling persecuted, embattled and unappreciated, was pushed to even greater effort on the training field and in the transfer market.

Blackburn Rovers, now, are to pay Sven Goran Eriksson a fortune to leave Sampdoria for Ewood Park. Will it be money well spent? Can Eriksson, for all his huge European experience, do more for

Blackburn than their modest, unambitious stopgap, the estimable Tony Parkes? And why, with all due respect, does Eriksson want to come to Blackburn at all, a club which could even drop out of the FA Carling Premiership, when the likes of Lazio would evidently be glad to have him back.

I have known and appreciated Eriksson for many years; a man of charm, honesty and competence. Blackburn clearly hope he will emulate Arsène Wenger, who has the same qualities and is doing remarkably well with a far-from-dazzling Arsenal team he took over with the season well advanced.

Recently, the coruscating Nigerian forward, Victor Ikpeba, paid tribute to Wenger, and the way he helped him at Monaco — just as George Weah had done.

What one can say, surely, is that every managerial career is finite, the triumphant exception that proves the rule being the remarkable Guy Roux, 30 years at

Auxerre, who actually won the French championship last season, and endlessly produces fine players. But managerial pressures are immense. If, on the Continent, the manager does not have to be a millionaire, he is often prey to pressures from fans and the media unknown in Britain.

Bill Shankly quit Liverpool while he was ahead. Alex Ferguson, ten years at Old Trafford, has, over the past couple of seasons, been prone to strange tactical errors and manifest mistakes in the transfer market.

"I never knew," Brian Mears, when he was chairman of Chelsea, and Dave Sexton was no longer delivering the goods, said, "that managers need motivating too."

"You don't know what's going on in a club," Jesse Carver, the one English manager to win a postwar Italian championship, said. "No one does." He may have been right, for the myth and the mystery continue.

FOOTBALL

United disclaim reports of £20m bid for Batistuta

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

MANCHESTER United have denied reports that they have made a world record offer of £20 million for Gabriel Batistuta, the Argentine and Fiorentina forward. *Corriere dello Sport*, the Italian newspaper, claimed yesterday that Martin Edwards, the United chairman and chief executive, faxed a bid to Fiorentina late last week.

United were also reported to have offered £7 million for Stefan Schwarz, the Sweden and former Arsenal midfield player, who also plays for Fiorentina. Vittorio Cecchi Gori, president of the Italian Cup holders, is said to be considering the approaches, despite having recently persuaded Batistuta, the club captain, to sign a new contract.

However, United issued an immediate and curt response to the stories. "It is absolute rubbish," Ken Ramsden, the Old Trafford press officer, said. It was a similar reaction to that of Robert Coar, the Blackburn Rovers chairman, after his club had been linked, also by *Corriere dello Sport*, to Rui Costa, the Portugal midfield player, and Lorenzo Amoruso, the Italian defender. They, too, play for Fiorentina.

"Rubbish," Coar said. Rovers reportedly having offered £11 million for Rui Costa, who played for Portugal during Euro 96, and £7 million for Amoruso. Apparently, the

moves had been authorised by Sven Goran Eriksson, the present coach of Sampdoria who will become Blackburn's manager during the summer.

Batistuta's contract takes him through to 2000, with an option until 2001, while Rui Costa has signed up until 2001. Though Batistuta's form is short of his best and the team is struggling in mid-table in Serie A, he is hugely popular with the supporters.

Fiorentina have also reached the quarter-finals of the European Cup Winners'

Italy hope to play Northern Ireland, Ireland or Wales on January 22 in advance of the World Cup qualifying match with England in February. It will be the only chance Cesare Maldini, the new Italy manager, has to assess his team before the game at Wembley.

Cup, in which they play Benfica next year, and it is unlikely that supporters would forgive Cecchi Gori if he were to sell the club's prize asset.

Alan Shearer, of Newcastle United, David Seaman, of Arsenal, Steve McManaman, of Liverpool, and Peter Schmeichel and Gary Neville, the Manchester United pair, are to play for a Europe XI against an Africa XI in Lisbon on January 29. The match will open an under-17 youth tour-

ment between teams from both continents to raise money for various football projects in Africa. It will also launch the "European Year Against Racism" campaign, which has been organised by Uefa, the sport's governing body in Europe.

Christian Ziege, Jürgen Klinsmann and Andreas Möller, of Germany, Paolo Maldini and Alessandro del Piero, of Italy, and Alen Bokšić, of Croatia, will also feature in the Europe line-up.

Mike Newell, the Birmingham City forward, has joined West Ham United on a month's loan, with a view to a permanent move. Newell, formerly of Blackburn and Everton, cost Birmingham £70,000 when he left Ewood Park in the summer.

He scored only one goal in seven Nationwide League first division games before asking to go on the transfer list two months ago, after telling Trevor Francis, the Birmingham manager, that he was unable to settle in the Midlands. He could make his debut for West Ham against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge tomorrow.

Bolton Wanderers have signed John Sheridan, the experienced Sheffield Wednesday mid-field player. Bolton have agreed to pay £180,000 for the Ireland international, with Wednesday receiving a further £25,000 if Bolton win promotion to the FA Carling Premiership.

Sheridan, 32, who started his career at Leeds United, spent a recent loan spell at Burnley Park. He is expected to play in the first division game away to Swindon Town on Sunday.

Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, is to take another look at Vlad Kinder, 26, the Slovakia left back, after he did well in a reserve match. Robson has already contacted Slovan Bratislava, Kinder's club. "I quite liked what I saw," Robson said. "There could be a deal for Vlad if he continues to impress."



Swimmers in the men's 200 metres freestyle make a splash at the start of the heats

Hickman set for stiff test

By CRAIG LORD

ORGANISERS of the British swimming championships might be wise to make sure that they have enough bottle to cope with the ambitions of James Hickman. That way, they might avoid a repeat of the French fiasco of February this year, when two world records by Denis Pankratov, of Russia, could not be ratified because organisers of the World Cup event had run out of drug-test vessels.

Voted Young Mancunian of the Year last month, Hickman, 20, yesterday set the pace at Pond's Forge pool in Sheffield with a British short-course record of 53.03sec in the

100 metres butterfly heats. He intends to add the world short-course record over 200 metres tomorrow (presently 53.06sec, against Pankratov's disallowed 52.34sec).

Shame, then, that for the last three of the four days of the championships, there will be no drug-testing. Should Hickman achieve his ambition, test equipment will have to be brought in within 24 hours for the record to count.

Hickman's good form, a continuation of the success he enjoyed in making finals at the Olympic Games, is testament to the job being done by Dave Calleja, his coach, at Stockport

Metro. His other charge is Graeme Smith, the bronze medal-winner in the 1,500 metres freestyle in Atlanta.

Smith yesterday withdrew from the final of the 1,500 after swimming the heats, on the grounds that he is working to improve his sprint speed, essential if he is to stand a chance of a gold medal in Sydney 2000. He will avoid meeting Ian Wilson, winner of the silver medal at the European short-course championships last weekend, and concentrate on the 200 metres and 400 metres in Sheffield.

Results, page 34

Club chairmen agree to league changes

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

AN EXPECTED challenge to the restructuring of the Football League, from disenchanted clubs in the second and third divisions of the Nationwide League, fizzled out yesterday. The Football League's proposals, which include dismantling the six-strong board of directors and replacing it with an independently chaired nine-man body, were eventually given overwhelming support at an extraordinary general meeting in London.

Representatives of 69 of the 72 Nationwide League clubs voted the moves through, despite fears from many of the smaller clubs that they would be relinquishing too much power to their larger first division counterparts.

Gordon McKeag, 69, the league president and chairman of the present board, who will lose his chairmanship and will also stand down as president at the end of the season, said: "Change is inevitable. In many areas, it is not only desirable but necessary. Additional money in the game brings benefits, but it also brings dangers and problems. What might happen to a sport that has become solely dependent on outside sources if the money dries up?"

and determining how it is spent. There are signs, at the moment, that that balance is not being maintained. At the same time, we must preserve the essential values. After all, it is a sport."

David Sheepshanks, the Ipswich Town chairman and a prime mover of the proposals, is believed to have been accepted as one of three first division representatives on the newly-constructed board. He will join Ron Noades, of Crystal Palace, and Ian Stott, of Oldham Athletic. Nominations for the second and third division representatives close on Monday, with the result of the postal ballot due before January 9.

Iain Sproat, the Sports Minister, has urged the FA Premier League and Lutewoods, the pools company, to provide financial assistance for the Football Trust, which is mainly responsible for funding the upgrading of grounds in the wake of the Hillsborough disaster.

Since the introduction of the National Lottery two years ago, the Trust's annual income has slipped from a reported £37 million to £15 million. It is now concerned that it will be unable to fund some ground

Stockport see future in the Premiership

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

VICTORY over West Ham United on Wednesday night may have earned Stockport County a place in the Coca-Cola Cup quarter-finals, but David Jones, the Stockport manager, was not about to change his priorities after his Nationwide League second division team had enjoyed their moment of glory at Edgeley Park.

"It's a great feeling to have won, but I've always said that our immediate priority is to get out of the second division," Jones said after his team had achieved a memorable 2-1 success in their fourth-round replay, aided by a freakish goal by Iain Dowie, the West Ham striker. "We're very ambitious at this club and the next step after that would be the Premiership. That's what we're aiming for."

Southampton earned a quarter-final trip to Stockport with a 3-2 defeat of Oxford United in Wednesday's other fourth-round replay, despite the absence of Matthew Le Tissier with a thigh injury, while Manchester United did their championship chances little good with a 1-1 draw at Sheffield Wednesday.

Dowie set on lightening the load at Harrow

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

SPECTATORS filing into the Earlsmead ground of Harrow Borough pass a forlorn, fallen floodlight pylon in the car park that is a fitting symbol of the Icis League club's plight in the lower reaches of the premier division.

"We had four 80ft pylons with 12 lamps on each that were erected about 23 years ago," Peter Rogers, the club's football director, said. "One of the directors was walking his dog first thing in the morning and noticed a gap in one corner. We were lucky. The pylon fell when there was nobody about and there weren't any cars in the car park. It could have fallen on the pitch, the clubhouse or gardens on the side of the ground."

Adjusting the other pylons has enabled Harrow to carry on playing, but a structural engineer has now told the club that it must replace all the pylons. Even with insurance from the fallen pylon — a victim of gales — and safety grants, the club may face a worrying shortfall.

To get the club out of the shadows on the field, Harrow have turned to Bob Dowie, the brother of Iain, the West Ham United striker. Dowie replaced Harry Manoe, a Harrow stalwart in his playing days, who had

We finished eighth last year and he hadn't really changed the side. He felt the players weren't responding to him. He runs a big double-glazing firm and was very busy with his work, so he felt it was time to step away. He brought me to the club as coach last year and encouraged me to take the job."

The new manager is not short of things to do either. He combines working at Heathrow as an engineer for General Electric on British Airways' new Boeing 777 with acting as the FA head coach for Hertfordshire.

Dowie lined the team off the foot of the table on Saturday with a 1-0 win over Chertsey Town, having brought in Ian Rutherford, a striker, from Berkhamsted, and Justin Merritt, a full back, from Brackley. "I don't want anybody to feel comfortable," he said. "If players have a bad game, I want them to know that there are people itching to get their place in the team."

Among the players he wants to make way is a 35-year-old centre half called Dowie. "I'm too close to it," he said. "I've always found it difficult to keep my mouth shut. Now I'm manager, it'll be even harder." With due immobility, however,

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Rig failure likely to put Tibbs at rear of fleet

SPORTS

SAILING

Rig failure likely to put Tibbs at rear of fleet

By EDWARD GORMAN, SAILING CORRESPONDENT

THE BT Global Challenge fleet suffered its first serious rig failure three-fifths of the way through the Southern Ocean on Wednesday night when *Concert*, skippered by Chris Tibbs, fell off a wave and lost her mast from about 20ft above the deck.

The failure occurred as the yacht was going to windward in about 30 knots of wind on starboard tack in steep seas and snowstorms. At the time, she was under triple-reefed mainsail and staysail, about 2,000 miles east of her destination of Wellington, in New Zealand, and lying in fourth place.

According to Andrew Roberts, the race project director, who oversees the technical preparation of the yachts, the mast broke just above the first set of spreaders, which are 20ft above the deck, and then fell over the port side. There was a second break at the middle set of spreaders, 40ft up, and the crew were able to save the middle section after cutting away the top part.

The cause of the failure was a breakage in the intermediate shroud on the starboard side.

Race positions 37

A 12mm stainless steel wire running from the deck up to the middle spreaders. The fracture occurred just where the stay passes through the top spreaders.

Concert expected to retire formally from this leg. Her performance under the rules of this event will be the same as the last yacht to arrive in Wellington, with another 15 per cent of that yacht's time added on. Even after her strong showing on the first leg is taken into account, she is likely to find herself at the rear of the fleet.

Concert himself was worried by the drama, but not unduly so. He said that the yachts have undergone the best possible preparation and every fault that is found is subsequently rectified. He added that it is partly because of the confidence that the crews have in their boats that they push them so hard — until something else fails.

In the wake of the incident on *Concert*, there were signs yesterday that several of the skippers have eased off a little, to make sure that they reach New Zealand in one piece.

Whitaker confirmed after-

her lowers, while *Toshiba Wave Warrior* has a similar strand failure at the first set of spreaders. These problems come in addition to the deterioration in the forestays on four yachts — *Global Teamwork*, *3Com*, *Heath Insured II* and *Sure The Children* — the first two of which have had to re-

rigged.

The events of Wednesday are an unwelcome reminder for Roberts and Chay Blyth, the race director, of the last race, when seven yachts experienced problems with a faulty rigging screw in the Southern Ocean and one, *British Steel II*, was dismasted.

Just like *British Steel* before her, *Concert* is now motoring to the Chatham Islands, 420 miles southeast of Wellington, after having taken extra fuel on board from *Motorola*.

When she gets there, in around two weeks, she will refuel and then head for Wellington, where she will arrive about a week after the rest of the fleet and where a new mast will be fitted after being flown out from Plymouth.

For the crew of *Concert*, the rig failure is a cruel blow. The boat did exceptionally well in the first leg to finish third and looked to be maintaining that level of performance on this leg. Tibbs, who was not tipped as a possible winner at the start, was regarded as having a good chance of finishing in the top three overall.

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ICE HOCKEY

Britain hope for brighter future

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

SHANNON HOPE was prepared to accept yesterday that qualification for the Olympic Games is now unlikely, after the 3-3 draw with Switzerland on Wednesday night, but the Great Britain captain believes that the world championships can provide compensation.

"We are all disappointed that it looks unlikely we'll qualify for the Olympics, but the national team programme has come on a lot over the last few months," Hope said. "The players get little reward for playing, but the dedication they have shown proves they want to see the British game drive forward."

A British team has not reached the Olympics for 50 years, and the Swiss should beat Denmark at home tomorrow, thus reaching the tournament in February where five places at the 1998 Games in Nagano, Japan, are on offer. But Britain, who would miss out despite not losing a game, are still confident that they can regain a place among the world's elite.

Hope believes Britain can win their world championship pool B competition in Poland in April. "I think, as a team, we have shown we are ready now to make it to pool A again," he said. "I expect us to get there."

Britain had a brief flirtation with pool A in 1994, but took some heavy beatings before finishing last. The next year, a lack of preparation and a clash with the end-of-season play-offs nearly saw them drop out of the second tier.

The situation has since improved under Peter Woods, the coach, and Nico Toomen, the technical director, who has arranged a training camp in Austria in April, before travelling on to the championships in Poland.

"Our preparation before has been to tell the players to get out of the bar at Wembley because you're off to the world championships," Toomen said. "That won't happen again. I don't care how much money it will cost, but we will be having a camp before the championships. We have to have the strongest preparation possible."

P W D L F A P
Great Britain... 5 9 0 31 15 13
Switzerland... 7 5 2 0 34 13 12
Denmark... 7 3 1 3 22 20 7
Slovenia... 6 3 0 5 32 24 6
Holland... 8 0 0 8 8 85 55 0

LYNNE TRUSS



Kicking and Screaming

I had never used Manchester United gift-wrap until this year. But it's all right, actually; I'm not whingeing. The football thing was bound to affect my nearest and dearest in the long run and if they all get Manchester United shot glasses and Manchester United massage sandals for Christmas this year, they should just bear in mind how much worse it could have been. I mean, I did choose the best stuff, honest.

But the best stuff in the Old Trafford Megastore doesn't look so good when you get it home. It crumbles in the light of day. Damn. If only I could keep hold of simple, objective standards when I'm shopping. Were it on a display stand in Harvey Nichols in Leeds, you see, this little figurine of Ryan Giggs with "GIGGS" helpfully written on it would be a very tacky and unattractive item. But in the heat of the Manchester United Megastore — a riot of hideous red and yellow motifs on golf umbrellas, baby-grows and beany hats — it appeared restrained and tasteful. "Admittedly, he looks more like Jack Nicholson, but hey, I'll have him anyway" this shopper declared, satisfied. "And what lovely Manchester United gift-wrap isn't it cheerful?"

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thrives on exploiting little suckerish people with bad money-sense, motif-fixations and awful taste in lampshades.

This sensation of suckerdom is not encouraging, obviously. I kept wanting to say: "Eric

to pose in the MUFC roll-neck sweaters and the white towelling bathrobes. In fact, if you look carefully at the man in the bathrobe picture, he has rather unprofessional sockmarks around his ankles.

But it's always the same

'Commerce is naked and pretty damned ugly at Old Trafford'

Cantona doesn't shop in here, does he? When was the last time Alex Ferguson popped in for a box of crackers? Flipping the pages of the mail order catalogue, one can't help noticing that the players are much too grand (and expen-

sive) to pose in the MUFC roll-neck sweaters and the white towelling bathrobes. In fact, if you look carefully at the man in the bathrobe picture, he has rather unprofessional sockmarks around his ankles.

But it's always the same

with religion: we ask for bread; they give us stones. We want to commune with our heroes, and we end up with a signed print in a "gilt-edged" frame, costing £80. Suckers, suckers, little suckers — by the time I left the megastore with

two carrier bags of stuff, I was only four feet tall; had I dallied longer beside the Manchester United hot-water bottle covers ("Shall I? Shant I? Do I need one"), I might have snuffed out like a candle.

No, the best value at Old Trafford is the £5 trick Polaroid with the star of your choice, although when I scanned the pictures for the lovely Beckham I couldn't find him. "Which is Beckham?" I asked the man with the camera. "There," he said. "No, that's not him," I said with confidence. "It is," he said. "He just hasn't been airbrushed, so he doesn't look handsome." (I detected jealousy in this remark.)

Fickle customers as ever, I chose Cantona and Schmeichel and then posed pluckily against a blank wall, trying to look weak-kneed and overcome by the honour of the occasion. It backfired slightly. Hoping to gaze admiringly into Cantona's eyes, I miscalculated my own height and looked at the top of his head; hoping to point larkily at Schmeichel, I lost a finger behind a programme he was signing.

But my pictures are an excellent memento of Old Trafford suckerdom, and also a rather good symbol for the whole business of football merchandise — being cheap yet a rip-off at the same time. "Really they ought to get a design consultant," the boyfriend said at the end of our visit. It was one of those lovely understatements that you treasure for the rest of your life.

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Guilty, yes, but she is not solely to blame

Elizabeth Hurley is not the first actress to make a very bad film; nor, I suppose, will she be the last. But where she is undoubtedly alone is in having the blame for a disaster heaped entirely upon her shapely shoulders. This is most unfair. All sorts of people were very bad in *Samson and Delilah* (Sky 1).

Dennis Hopper, Diana Rigg and Daniel Massey are just three who will not sleep easily in their beds. Nicolas Roeg, who directed it, may never sleep again. Only Michael Gambon can shrug and walk away with his head high. His task was made easier by playing the very reasonable King of the Philistines, a man who believed tongues should be cut out only in emergencies, and by the fact that most of his scenes were played opposite his ridiculously evil son, Prince Sidja. Next to the unfortunate Ben Becker, Gambon was bound to look good.

Delilah (a heavily kohled Hurley) had relatively little to do in this tiresomely protracted version of the story. Some rather demure sex scenes in a tent, a bit of flirting with General Tariq (Hopper) and she was off to the temple, a demise that brought to a close a performance from Eric Thal that seemed to have lasted an eternity. At four hours, it very nearly had. No wonder the American critics were in such vicious mood by the end of it. Me? I did my Christmas cards. Hardly cross at all by the close.

Much criticism has been heaped upon Hurley's accent, but her Home Counties was just one of umpteen variations on the English language that reflected the fact that this was a television movie produced in Italy and Germany and backed additionally in France, Britain and America. So Samson's accent was continental American, his mother's theatrical English, while most of his pre-Delilah girlfriends spoke Italian-English. No wonder he fell for the first girl

he met with neatly clipped vowels. Delilah, of course, did not enjoy her riches for long, eventually being squashed by a very large column. Given her lifestyle, that seemed appropriate. Samson also died in the temple, a demise that brought to a close a performance from Eric Thal that seemed to have lasted an eternity. At four hours, it very nearly had. No wonder the American critics were in such vicious mood by the end of it. Me? I did my Christmas cards. Hardly cross at all by the close.

Given the mauling *Crocodile Shoes* (BBC1) has received in recent weeks, Jimmy Nail and Hurley could soon be setting up a support group for serially abused actors — or at least they could once they get over the language barrier. But unlike Hurley, Nail has nowhere to hide, nobody else to blame. As the credits lost no time in reminding

us, he wrote and created it, stars in it, executive produced it and wrote the songs. As far as I'm concerned, that makes it his fault.

Anyway, last night's episode was the last one; so things were looking up. "Let's hear it for the country boy," I sang, cheerily looking forward to discovering what it had all been about for the preceding five weeks. But as the great Kylie Minogue once said: "I

should be so lucky... lucky, lucky, lucky."

It seems that the reason for everything — his manager's death, his financial ruin, et cetera — was something called "a cut-out scam". Not another cut-out scam, I groaned. No, that's not true. A what, I said? But Nail, alias Jed Sheppard, alias Tyneside's answer to Simple Simon, was ahead of me. "So what's a cut-out scam?" he asked his new and so far still alive manager. He explained... slowly and at some length. I still didn't understand it, but it seemed to involve deleted records. I wonder whose?

Then it all got very strange. The bald policeman became a goody, the sleazy journalist became the caped crusader and something odd happened to the normal patterns of day and night. As the action shuttled between London and Newcastle at a speed that defied the AI, it could be night-time

on the Tyne and broad daylight on the Thames. As Wendy (Liz Carrington) was held hostage by the mad Connors, she seemed to pass through three time zones. Not that it mattered, the gallant Jed would have rescued her in any of them and driven the wicked Warren Bowles (Robert Morgan) into a fuel tanker. Bowles and the cut-out scam were history and so, I hope, is *Crocodile Shoes*.

slightly defensive Goldsworthy. "It's the way they sit, the choice of stone..."

Tim Neil's film was absorbing and enjoyably provocative, playfully contrasting the artist's enthusiasm with the healthy scepticism of local farmers. One minute I could see exactly what Goldsworthy was getting at: "The idea of time is so important to me." The restored sheep-fold could stand for another 50-100 years and even when the walls have crumbled again, the boulders will remain. The line will always be there."

But just as he convinced me, I suddenly realised he wasn't even doing the walling himself — with the help of an Arts Council grant he'd got the professionals in. This seemed a bit like Van Gogh saying to an assistant: "Here's a nice colour, just dab it on there for me please." Still, if sheep ever discover picnics, those boulders will make lovely tables.

Matthew Bond

BBC1
6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (30056)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (30470) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (1624682)
9.20 STYLE CHALLENGE (4507681)
9.45 KILROY (5633730)
10.30 CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK with Kevin Woodcock (55092)
11.00 NEWS (T) and weather (3039314)
11.05 THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW Consumer advice (5034827)
11.45 SMILLIE'S PEOPLE (5981038)
12.00 NEWS (T) and weather (1929371)
12.05pm ALIAS SMITH AND JONES (T) (3076575)
12.50 THE WEATHER SHOW (30443372)
1.00 NEWS (T) and weather (33594)
1.30 REGIONAL NEWS (3942458)
1.40 NEIGHBOURS (T) (29484914)
2.00 CALL MY BLUFF (3468)
2.30 PETER SEABROOK'S GARDENING WEEK Last in series (945)
3.00 INCOGNITO (5204)
3.30 BRUM (T) (7652999) 3.40 <i>Roundabout the Reindeer</i> (20130) 3.50 <i>The Family Ness</i> (T) (6883407) 3.55 <i>Dear Mr Barker</i> . Last in series (T) (4402466) 4.10 <i>The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest</i> (T) (T) (1572136) 4.35 <i>Grange Hill</i> (7689049) 5.00 <i>Newround</i> (T) (5919310) 5.10 <i>Blue Peter</i> (T) (2281117)
5.35 NEIGHBOURS (T) (T) (963862)
6.00 NEWS (T) and weather (575)
6.30 REGIONAL NEWS (227)
7.00 THIS IS YOUR LIFE (T) (7285)
7.30 TOP OF THE POPS (T) (339)
8.00 DAD'S ARMY Classic comedy with the Wellington-on-House Guard. Starring Arthur Lowe, John Le Mesurier and Clive Dunn (T) (9393)
8.30 2POINT4 CHILDREN The second of a two-part story. Ben has disappeared and Ron returns from the hospital with more than she bargained for (T) (5440)
9.00 NEWS (T), regional news and weather (3440)
9.30 HETTY WAINTHROPP INVESTIGATES The police ask Hetty to investigate a spiritualist for them, but she is not prepared for what she discovers (T) (480049)
10.25 PARKY AT CHRISTMAS Michael Parkinson relives some of the magical moments from his 11 years as a chat show host, before an invited audience (T) (333372) WALES: Iris Williams — Song Book 10.55 <i>Parky at Christmas</i> 11.45 FILM: <i>Carry on Loving</i> 1.10pm FILM: <i>Carry on Abroad</i> 2.40pm News
11.15 FILM: <i>Carry on Loving</i> (1970) starring Sid James, Kenneth Williams, Charles Hawtrey and John Sims. Romantic comedy with the <i>Carry On</i> gang running a bogus marriage bureau. Directed by Gerald Thomas (T) (345852)
12.40pm FILM: <i>Carry on Abroad</i> (1972) starring Sid James, Kenneth Williams, Charles Hawtrey, John Sims and Barbara Windsor. The <i>Carry On</i> team cause havoc when they arrive in a Spanish resort on a package holiday. Directed by Gerald Thomas (329973)
11.20 WEATHER (7149173)

BBC2
6.00pm OPEN UNIVERSITY: The Statistician Strikes Back (7405845)
6.25 <i>The World's Best Athletes</i> (7418581)
6.50 Refining (8722643) 7.15 See How Breakfast News (2741730) 7.30 The Legend of Prince Valiant (5679914)
7.50 Smart (5677330) 8.15 Charlie Chalk (7932224) 8.35 <i>Lastas</i> (6716135) 8.45 <i>Braveheart</i> (5678117) 10.00 <i>Playdays</i> (2177881)
10.25 <i>The Champions</i> (191559) 11.15 <i>Phil Sayers Show</i> (4226484) 11.40 <i>Fiona Gordon's Trip to Mars</i> (9131371)
12.00 <i>Operation Survival</i> (56846)
12.30pm Working Lives (28117) 1.00 Charlie Chalk (9840777)
1.15 <i>Blanche Flury</i> (1948, b/w) Gothic melodrama starring Stewart Granger and Valerie Hobson. Directed by Marc Allégret (T) (769117)
2.45 MR ZOGG'S CLOTHES (3110681) 3.00 News and weather (7870914) 3.05 The Oprah Winfrey Show (5155117) 3.45 <i>Performance</i> (1965643) 3.55 News and weather (5673020) 4.00 <i>Today's the Day</i> (440) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (952)
5.00 <i>Swimming</i> (5391) 5.30 <i>Gong Gong, Gong Gong</i> (204)
6.00 <i>The MUNSTERS</i> (P/M) (T) (656581)
6.25 UFO (T) (T) (508108)
7.15 ELECTRIC CIRCUS (500198)
7.30 TOP GEAR MOTORSPORT Highlights from the motoring calendar (T) (681)
8.00 GLUCK, GLUCK, GLUCK Malcolm travels to Spain, New Zealand and Germany to discover how wine gets its flavour (T) (4575)
8.30 STEFAN BUZZACK'S GARDENING BRITAIN In the final programme of the series, Stefan visits the magnificent Capability Brown garden in Stowe, Buckinghamshire, where he is joined by a team of experts to offer seasonal advice on protecting plants from the ravages of winter (T) (6310)
9.00 SHOOTING STARS Celebrity quiz with guests Frank Bough, Clare Grogan, John Thomson and Sarah White (T) (4310)
9.30 RED DWARF VI Last in series (T) (T) (39681)
10.00 HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU Highlights from the 1996 series (99575)
10.30 NEWSPNIGHT (T) (32481)
11.15 LOOKING FOR TAT (774020)

Comedian Felix Dexter (11.25pm)

ITV
6.00am GMTV (7633049)
6.25 CAPTAIN SIMIAN AND THE SPACE MONKEYS (4501020)
9.50 STEP BY STEP (2559117)
10.20 NEWS (3447730)
10.25 REGIONAL NEWS (3446001)
10.30 FILM: <i>The Trouble with Harry</i> (1955) Comedy thriller starring Edmund Gwenn, John Forsythe and Shirley MacLaine. An old sea captain's friends become involved when he finds a corpse. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock (8040469)
12.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (5529335)
12.30 NEWS (T) and weather (9489594)
12.52 MR QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN (T) (5628943) 2.00 Home and Away (T) (63167448) 2.25 Murder, She Wrote (T) (60317925) 2.55 <i>Yan Can Cook</i> — The Best of China (6267154)
3.20 NEWS (T) (788204)
3.25 REGIONAL NEWS (7886575)
3.30 JAYS WORLD (5673171) 3.40 <i>Zzzap!</i> Christmas Annual (04622611) 3.55 CIV Awards 1996 (8439556)
5.10 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (7041117)
5.40 NEWS (T) and weather (4962957)
6.00 HOME AND AWAY (T) (T) (369407)
6.25 HTV NEWS (T) (110020)
7.00 CATCHPHRASE (T) (5681)
7.30 CORONATION STREET Alec sets a trap (T) (407)
8.00 THE BILL: A Gun to the Head A judge decides to reveal the name of Beech and Daly's informant (T) (1001)
8.30 FAITH IN THE FUTURE Faith and Hannah escort a coach load of aged art students across the Channel (T) (5976)

Dr Finlay and Dr Napier (9.00pm)

CHANNEL 4
6.30am THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ (8738846)
7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (23117)
9.00 FILM: <i>At the Earth's Core</i> (1976) Adventure starring Doug McClure and Peter Cushing as Victorian explorers. Directed by Kevin Connor (5109255)
10.40 WHITE FANG (8722040) 11.00 The Pink Panther (7505049) 11.30 Dog City (5406533) 11.50 <i>The Adventures of Tintin</i> (801169) 12.15pm Super Mario Bros. (9195229) 12.30 A Box Full of Stories (3038198) 12.50 <i>The Nightmare Years</i> (30469310) 1.00 <i>Sesame Street</i> (19240) 2.00 <i>The Living Sea</i> (79452830)
2.25 FILM: <i>The Christies Stallion</i> (1992) starring Sean MacLean as a 16-year-old orphan whose future is threatened when her grandfather dies. Directed by Peter Edwards (T) (658310)
4.15 COUNTDOWN (T) (186466)
5.00 TV DINNERS (T) (5889)
5.30 OVER THE GARDEN WALL (T) (T) (372)
6.00 TFI FRIDAY The bands include Sleeper and Black Grape (29204)
7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (245575)
7.55 THE SLOT (562198)
8.00 LONELY PLANET Justine Shapiro travels to Turkey, where she sees the ruins at Ephesus and attends a traditional wedding (T) (9643)
8.30 BROOKSIDE Has Ron finally pushed Jimmy too far? Nat and Georgia face up to the terrible consequences of their love (T) (8778)
9.00 CAROLINE IN THE CITY: Caroline and the 28th Walleye Caroline returns home to her delighted parents when the town honours her by naming a park after her (T) (7768)

Annebeth Gish stars (9.30pm)

9.30 FILM: <i>Mystic Pizza</i> (1988) Comedy starring Julia Roberts, Annebeth Gish and Lili Taylor. Sisters Daisy, Araujo and their friend Jojo work as pizza parlour waitresses in the resort town of Mystic, Connecticut. As the season draws to a close, a dramatic turn of events at Jojo's wedding leads to an autumn of romantic adventures for all three friends. Directed by Donald Petrie (620575)
11.20am THE ADAM AND JOE SHOW Tonight the duo compare American and British popular culture (57150)
1.00pm FILM: <i>The Satanic Rites of Dracula</i> (1973) starring Christopher Lee as the blood-loving fiend who plans to take over the world by introducing a new strain of bubonic plague. Also starring Peter Cushing. Directed by Alan Gibson (272353)
2.40 FILM: <i>The Devilship Pirates</i> (1964) In 1588 a Spanish pirate persuades Cornish villagers that Drake has been defeated (7234599) Ends at 4.10

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1

7.00am Love Connection (4149759) 7.20 Press Your Luck (3022223) 7.45 *Aladdin and the King of Thieves* (201327) 7.50 *Archie and the Gang* (201327) 8.00 *The Open* (201327) 8.15 *Aladdin* (T) (72310) 8.30 *Aladdin* (T) (72310) 8.45 *Aladdin* (T) (72310) 8.50 *Aladdin* (T) (72310) 8.55 *Aladdin* (T) (72310) 8.55 *Aladdin* (T) (72310) 8.55 *Aladdin* (T) (72310) 8.55 *Aladdin* (T) (72310) 8

**POOL 34**

Steve Davis dropped
in deep end
by new challenge

SPORT

FRIDAY DECEMBER 20 1996

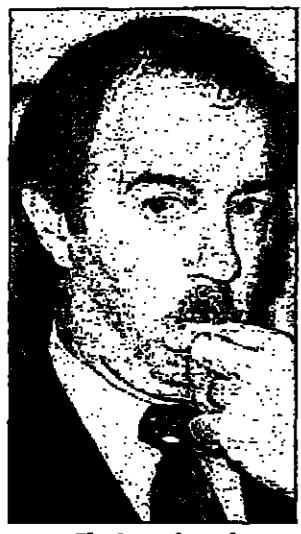
EQUESTRIANISM 37

Festive thrills
aplenty at
Olympia show



15

Forest forced to seek Psycho therapy



By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

IT IS becoming as traditional as mistletoe: a top football manager kissing his job goodbye in the week before Christmas. Frank Clark, a principled and decent man, the very voice of reason among managers, yesterday explained his resignation from Nottingham Forest, a team that has gone 16 games without victory and is at the foot of the FA Carling Premiership.

"I have just about run out of things to do, so I've done the ultimate," Clark said. "Sometimes, a manager leaving can be a help, and I hope that Stuart Pearce will accept the board's offer to take over, and give the team a short-term lift." Pearce, the motivator and marauder whose tenacity earned the nickname "Psycho", is deliberating over the

offer. But he likes a challenge, and when, almost certainly, he takes up the post of acting manager this morning, he will get two of them: Arsenal at home tomorrow and Manchester United at the City Ground on Boxing Day.

When Clark, a humorous man behind his sometimes lugubrious mask, speaks of the kickstart a change of manager might bring to Forest, the word kick could be appropriate. For what if Pearce takes up the challenge and gets himself sent off in leading by example (he has been lucky not to be shown the red card twice in recent games)? What good is a leader in the sin bin?

In truth, Clark seems to be acknowledging that, at a club without money, with its immediate future unknown, with the manager's authority undermined from day

one of this season, someone of a different approach might stir the players.

Where, meanwhile, does Clark go? He needs a job, and at 53 he still has the appetite to manage day-to-day in football, and the assumption is rife in the game that Manchester City, the poisoned chalice, is his for the taking. Clark said yesterday that he has had no contact with City or anyone else in English football. It will not be long in coming, for, with a settled boardroom, he has proven qualities, and Christmas is seldom a time when a solitary manager is parted from his club.

This time last year, Clark was the perceived success among British managers. His was the only club from these islands still in Europe, reaching the quarter-finals of the Uefa Cup. But, crucially, he had lost Stan Collymore, who insisted

on leaving for Liverpool. He had lost Lars Bohinen, who also defected to Blackburn Rovers. And when he lost Steve Stone, an England winger, to long-term injury, Forest's resources were too thin to replace them all.

He bought badly in Andrea Sileni, he found Bryan Roy did not have the temperament to follow a splendid first season with another, and Kevin Campbell has lapsed into indifferent form between more injuries. Yet a manager who inherited depression on the Trent after the departure of Brian Clough, had wheeled and deal to a turnover of £40 million — split right down the middle in sales and purchases — despite the albatross of an archaic club committee structure and accumulated debts of over £12 million.

Clark, a player who came late to

the professional game after training as a laboratory assistant, knew how to master the chemistry of a very special club challenge. The ghost, and some say the skeletons, of Clough did not deter him. He rebuilt, he told the truth, and even when the FA sought his advice on the failings of the English game and the relative success in Europe by Forest, he had this to say: "We've had to play every game in a cagey way to get this far. We've not been able to go out and play an expansive, attractive game, because we are not good enough. Until we improve the development of our young players, we [the English] will always be that little bit inferior technically."

He could cope, this thoughtful man, with most things football could throw at him. He was a left back, like Pearce, and one who had a reputation for fairness stretching

from his days as an Amateur Cup winner with Crook Town to his years as a Forest player when, under Clough, he won the championship and the European Cup.

Whether it is Pearce in the long term or not, the reality of managing Forest rests on a decision on January 6 of an extraordinary general meeting. Its duty is to decide between two consortiums, one led by Sandy Anderson, a millionaire from Scotland working in Derbyshire, or one fronted by the former Tottenham Hotspur chairman, Irving Scholar, offering the millions of Monte Carlo-based Lawrie Lewis.

The wrangling over Forest's takeover has been so messy that it has also attracted some dubious bids, allegedly even a Norwegian one involving the agent, Rune Haage, who is back in operation after being struck off for illegal transfer activity.

STU FORSTER / ALLSPORT



Atherton's fall caps worrying day for England

FROM SIMON WILDE IN BULAWAYO

BULAWAYO (second day of five) England, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 328 runs behind Zimbabwe

IF ENGLAND had the better of the opening day of the first Test match against Zimbabwe at Queens Club, there was no doubt that they had the worst of the second. Showing all the character they had promised to exhibit in the inaugural Test between the countries, Zimbabwe extended their first innings well into the afternoon to a total of 376 and then struck an important blow — the full impact of which has yet to feel — in the 50 minutes before tea.

Nick Knight and Michael Atherton began England's innings in encouraging style, positive in outlook and untroubled by a surface that promises little help to seam bowlers for the duration of the match. The three used by Zimbabwe, Streak, Bryan Strang and Olonga, whose one wayward over cost ten runs, did not threaten their equilibrium and it is already

reasonable to assume that Zimbabwe's main hope of keeping England's batsmen in check is through their one slow bowler, Paul Strang, the leg spinner, exploiting the patches of rough that the pitch is developing.

It was thus unfortunate for England that Strang, having been introduced for a couple of exploratory overs before the interval, should remove their most valuable batsmen, Atherton, with his eleventh ball.

Strang is a small man whose pace is quicker than most of his breed and it was a delivery that trapped the England captain leg-before. Atherton, whose footwork had been exemplary up to that point, went back and played a stroke that was uncharacteristically late.

Tea was taken immediately and as Atherton trudged from the field, ahead of the other players, the first rolls of thunder were heard, presaging the storm that was to wash out the final session but not, the England camp must hope,

the early finish gave England ample time to rue the loss of the player who has so often been at the centre of their best batting performances to the mode of bowling that has lately embarrassed them most. To lose that wicket to leg spin was a disappointment.

David Lloyd, the England coach, said: "This leg spinner takes his wickets at 65. We don't want to put any demons into the heads of our batsmen. He is quick for a leg spinner — we have got to play forward."

If Atherton's dismissal was a disappointment — extending his first-class record on tour to 84 runs from five innings — it was not the most unhappy aspect of England's day. That, again, was their bowling. With the exception, again, of Croft, it was uniformly unimpressive and makes a mockery of Lloyd's aim of finding an attack with a "cutting edge" capable of disconcerting Australia next year.

If they were watching the morning session, on television in the bars of Sydney, the locals must have laughed into their beers as England struggled to take just one wicket in the session — and that with a full toss. Bowled by Silverwood, it accounted for Paul Strang after a vibrant 38.

Then, Andy Flower, 38

overnight, had dug himself in again and, with Streak providing effortless support, reached the third Test century of his career half an hour into the afternoon session with an impish reverse sweep for four off Tufnell. It took him 5½ hours, an hour of which was

spent getting through the nineties, and was a thoroughly well-organised innings.

He came in on Wednesday night with his side 136 for three, having lost two wickets in four overs, and oversaw the addition of 236 more runs. For a long time yesterday, it looked as though England would be facing a total of 450 plus but the last three wickets went in two overs.

Flower is a cricketer down to his bootstraps. He has made runs regularly for his country, captained them and keeps wickets for them. He stands for no nonsense and when Mullally's response to being pulled to the mid-wicket boundary was to unleash a bouncer, and verbal rejoinders Flower simply touched the peak of his cap.

Mullally has been propelled by a pretty feeble breeze in this match, but that quite took what wind there was out of his sails.

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Flower's 136, 5½ hours, an hour of which was

Silence marks beginning of the end

Lucy Duncan, on board Concert, on her losing battle with the Southern Ocean

THE REST OF THE WATCH. I poked my head above deck to see our once-solid mast snapped in two places, like a broken twig.

Stuart Park was the watch leader on deck at the time.

"Initially the boom dropped onto the vang as if the main halyard had broken," he said. "As I looked up, I saw the mast breaking. The top section lay along the port side in the water, connected by wire rigging and halyards. The mid-section lay at an angle from the top of the lower section to the waterline."

Mathew Fletcher, who was on the helm, described coming off a wave into a trough as we have done many times before, to find the main suddenly go slack. Before he

knew it, the mast was in the water. The situation was dealt with incredibly quickly and there was a total absence of panic.

At the moment it is too early to speculate on why the rig failed — we were not sailing the boat hard.

My initial thoughts, once the enormity of what had happened had struck home, were that this was the end of the racing. We felt we were competitive and thoroughly enjoyed pitting ourselves against the other boats. We will just have to do it on an individual leg basis instead.

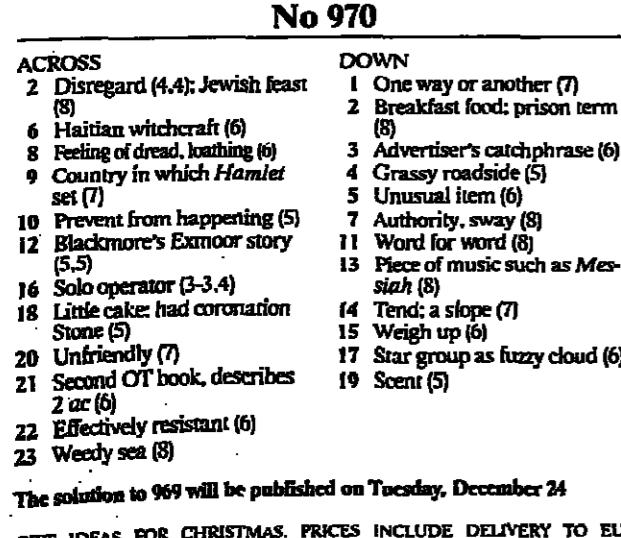
One of the best things to come out of the past 24 hours is the response of our crew and all the other crews to our

predicament. Not one person has been called to moan or complain. Offers of support have poured in from all the other crews. However, our only immediate need was for more fuel, which was provided by Motorola in the late evening. Transferring cans of fuel in the choppy seas was not easy, but was achieved with the minimum of fuss.

Having not seen another boat for weeks, it was wonderful to see Motorola appear out of the Southern Ocean mist.

It was equally emotional to see her hoist her stay sail and disappear back into the race, leaving us to plod on under engine power. Still, I am told that the Chatham Islands are not somewhere that many people get the opportunity to see...

Race positions, page 34
Rig mystery, page 37



No 970

ACROSS
2 Disregard (4,4); Jewish feast (8)
6 Haitian witchcraft (6)
8 Feeling of dread, loathing (6)
9 Country in which Hamlet set (7)
10 Prevent from happening (5)
12 Blackmore's Exmoor story (5,5)
16 Solo operator (3,3,4)
18 Little cake; had coronation Stone (5)
20 Unfriendly (7)
21 Second Of hook, describes 2 arc (6)
22 Effectively resistant (6)
23 Weedy sea (8)

The solution to 969 will be published on Tuesday, December 24

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Latin American guerrillas' love of money vies with sense of social justice

FROM DAVID ADAMS
IN MIAMI

SEVERAL representatives of top Japanese firms — including car-makers Toyota and Mitsubishi, electrical goods manufacturers NEC and Matsushita, and the mining firm Mitsui — are among the hostages.

Japan's business presence has risen substantially in mineral-rich Peru during the Fujimori presiden-

IN THE NEWS

cy, with investments of more than \$750 million (£50 million).

The guerrillas' main demand involves the release of several hundred of their comrades jailed in Peru and in neighbouring countries, including Bolivia and Uruguay. The guerrillas are also demanding payment of an unspecified amount through a "war tax".

Japan, and Japanese corporations have an increasing reputation for rapidly caving in to extortion. When a senior executive of the Sanyo electronics giant was kidnapped in Mexico last August, the company quickly paid a \$2 million ransom to secure his release.

Analysts say the time when Latin American guerrillas fought for democracy and sought social justice is long gone, save perhaps for the Zapatista rebel army in south-

ern Mexico. "These days it's all about money," said Eduardo Gamarra, a Bolivian academic. "Most of the guerrilla groups operating in the region today have been corrupted by money and are little more than common criminals."

Peruvian experts agree that the Cuban and Libyan-trained Movimiento Revolucionario Tupac Amaru has a well-proven track record of financing its operation through extortion and kidnapping,

which it likes to call "war taxes". Last year the group kidnapped a leading Bolivian academic. Most of the guerrilla groups operating in the region today have been corrupted by money and are little more than common criminals."

Peruvian experts agree that the Cuban and Libyan-trained Movimiento Revolucionario Tupac Amaru has a well-proven track record of financing its operation through extortion and kidnapping,

a newspaper editor and expert on Peruvian armed groups. "They have made a lot of money with a number of high-profile and financially rewarding kidnappings."

But at the same time, Gorriti says, factions of the group have been less corrupted by money, retaining "a relatively high degree of political conviction".

Money may be part of their motivation, Gorriti said, but their political survival is also a result of

MANUEL LLANOS/REUTERS

military repression by President Fujimori's Government and the military intelligence services.

Spurning guerrilla offers to negotiate an end to the struggle, the Government chose to try to wipe them out. "In some ways, these people didn't have much of a choice if they wanted to maintain any level of existence," Gorriti said. "Senior Fujimori is reaping what he has sown with the inadequacies of his counter-insurgency policy."

Emperor's birthday celebration cancelled

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS
IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S Imperial Palace announced yesterday that it will cancel its official celebrations of Emperor Akihito's sixty-third birthday because of the terrorist incident in Peru.

The celebrations, to be held next Monday, normally include a banquet, a reception for foreign diplomats and the emperor's greetings to well-wishers from a palace verandah.

The decision was made at the request of Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Prime Minister, according to statement released by Sadame Kamakura, head of the Imperial Household Agency.

The opening of the plaza for the emperor's annual greetings is one of the few opportunities the average Japanese has to view the palace grounds.

SAS team enters Lima arena as proven winners

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Special Air Service has taken on a high-risk mission in Lima, confronted by an enemy dedicated to its cause and prepared to die for it.

The Marxist Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement has a long history of violence and any plan to storm the Japanese Ambassador's residence to release the hostages could lead to a bloodbath.

The challenge for the small SAS team sent from the Herford headquarters of the British Army's elite regiment is that expectations of their ability to resolve the siege will be high, even though their role in this incident is to be strictly advisory. They are there to add their experience to any American special forces team which is sent to Peru.

The SAS has acquired such legendary operational status that its expertise and experience have been called upon by foreign governments around the globe. Men from 22 SAS, the regular army regiment, have turned up in Somalia, Gambia, and even the United States to offer their help and advice.

One SAS man was believed to have been present at the doomed Waco siege in Texas in April 1993 which ended in disaster when armed American police stormed the fortress home of David Koresh and his followers. The SAS liaison man is understood to have advised against the action.

In Lima, however, there are some additional factors that seem likely to argue against storming the Japanese resi-



half dozen men are believed to consist of four instructors from the counter-revolutionary warfare wing, all senior non-commissioned officers, and two officers.

Although their role will be strictly advisory, past experience has shown that SAS "advisors" tend to get involved on the operational side. This was the case in Gambia and in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, where the SAS played a crucial part in bringing to an end a hijack in the former case and an armed insurrection in the latter.

In October 1977 four Palestinians hijacked a Lufthansa airliner and demanded the release of the jailed leaders of the Baader-Meinhof terrorist organisation. The airliner finally landed in Mogadishu. The pilot had been murdered and his body was thrown onto the runway.

The Germans asked for British help and two SAS men were sent as liaison personnel to join a German GSG9 special forces team. With no hope of a peaceful end to the hijack, the SAS men drew up a plan and joined the team in storming the aircraft. Three of the four hostages were killed and the passengers were freed.

The SAS's most public operation was the storming of the Iranian Embassy at Princes Gate in 1980. They used entry techniques which demonstrated the regiment's ability to act fast and aggressively. Explosive devices helped to disorientate the six terrorists — and the 20 hostages — and bring to an end a siege which had lasted for six days.



Two unidentified men watch from inside the Japanese Ambassador's residence, which was seized by gunmen

Moves to free jailed US rebel jeopardised



FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

THE siege is a blow to the hopes of a New York couple who have been campaigning all year for the release of their daughter from a Peruvian prison.

Mark and Rhoda Berenson, both teachers, last month visited Lori, 27, in a crude jail near the Andes. She was sentenced to life earlier this year for belonging to the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement.

The Tupac terrorists have named Lori Berenson as one of the prisoners they want released, among other demands.

Before this week's developments, the Berensons were quietly optimistic that, with discreet

FAMILY

diplomatic assistance and pressure from human rights groups, they could win a reduction in her sentence and improve her jail conditions.

She was tried in one of Peru's controversial "blind" courts, where judges sometimes wear hoods to disguise their identity, and where there is no jury.

Now the couple fear the Peruvian authorities will be in no mood to go soft on a misguided American who got mixed up in another country's domestic strife. Nor are the Berensons helped by the international nature of the Lima siege. The Tupac Amaru name will now be linked around the

world with terrorism, not the "poor people's struggle" that their daughter claims she was supporting.

"We are very distressed at the situation in Lima," said Mr Berenson. "We hope that the crisis is resolved expeditiously and peacefully."

An assistant at the office of Ramsey Clark, a former Attorney-General who is helping the Berensons, said the siege "certainly does not help some of the initiatives we are taking".

Mr Clark had harnessed support from Administration officials and several US congressmen. But yesterday the *New York Post* demanded that American officials made no further efforts to assist her.

THE SUNDAY TIMES



Your essential guide to television and radio for the festive fortnight featuring previews by our top critics — a 100-page double issue of The Culture this Sunday. Don't miss it!



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Christmas

is coming and
your company's
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Russia stepping up spy activities, says FBI chief

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

LOUIS FREEH, Director of the FBI said yesterday that Russia is increasing its efforts to spy on the United States, especially in economic espionage.

He said he would not underestimate the seriousness of the damage caused to national security by Earl Edwin Pitts, the senior FBI agent accused of selling US secrets to Moscow, although a full assessment has yet to be made.

Mr Pitts, 43, was arrested on Wednesday and charged with passing "everything" he could to the Russians between 1987 and 1992, when he worked in the FBI's New York unit responsible for catching Russian spies.

Mr Freeh told the Senate Judiciary Committee: "I think that Russian aggression has been unabated even in the post-Cold War. It's escalating. It's a serious and continuing problem."

He also disclosed that at least 23 foreign intelligence services are targeting the US and its economic infrastructure. But he said US counter-

intelligence has improved. That was one reason why three high-ranking American agents have been arrested for spying in the past three years.

US intelligence chiefs concede that today's well-paid traitors do not believe they are putting their country in as much peril as during the Cold War. Espionage is still personally ruinous and potentially fatal for those who are found out, but no longer carries an

overriding sense that millions of lives could be at stake.

As the three cases show, today's professional spies seem to spend more time spying on each other than unearthing secrets of national security.

The alleged damage caused by Mr Pitts did not involve information about nuclear weapons, satellites or electronic technology. Nor was anyone killed as a result of his suspected treachery.

Mr Freeh had said earlier that the Russians' primary objectives were secrets of tradecraft. They wanted to know how the FBI works, its strengths and weaknesses, and what it knows about Russian agents in America. The FBI's privacy was violated and its pride hurt.

John Deutch, about to retire as CIA Director, explained how the end of the Cold War's had changed espionage.

He said: "A very few case officers in the CIA and other government agencies just don't think it's that big a deal any more to give away secrets. It seems to make it easier to spy for

money now because our country's survival is not at stake the way it was during the Cold War."

Oleg Kalugin, a former KGB chief of counter-intelligence and now a Washington business consultant, said: "In the old days, we were fighting for the minds of human beings across the continents. Today we don't see each other as mortal enemies, so why not play along with the other side as long as they're willing to pay you?"

Money rather than ideology was apparently the lure for the three latest accused. Moscow paid them handsomely. \$2.5 million (£1.5 million) in the case of Aldrich Ames, the CIA mole serving life for treason that led to the executions of ten Western agents.

Awaiting trial is Harold Nicholson, a former CIA station chief, who denies supplying the names of CIA recruits to Moscow for \$180,000. Mr Pitts allegedly received \$240,000, though the Russians craftily held back \$100,000 "on account".



Pitts: agent accused of selling FBI's secrets



The "holy" image dismissed by sceptics as caused by light and a garden sprinkler

Hundreds flock to see 'vision of Virgin'

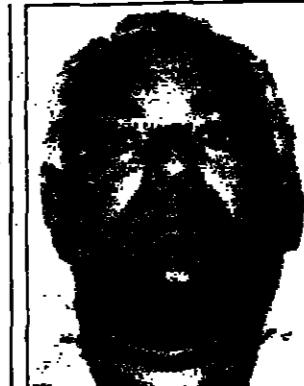
BY QUENTIN LETTS

HUNDREDS of people have been gathering outside a glass-fronted office building in Clearwater, Florida, to stare at what they say is a vision of the Virgin Mary.

Shadows on the tall, smoked-glass windows appear to show a haloed figure resembling traditional depictions of the Blessed Virgin. But sceptics say the shape is caused by light refracted by water in a garden sprinkler.

The shape was first seen by a woman on Tuesday morning. She mentioned it to others, and within minutes a crowd had gathered. Later, spectators carrying rosary beads prayed in front of the image. Mary Stewart of the Tampa Jesus Christian Centre, said: "I stepped out of my car and the presence of God almost drew me to my knees."

A spokesman for the Roman Catholic archdiocese of St Petersburg, Florida, said that "people should exercise a great deal of healthy scepticism" about the alleged vision.



Corozzo: faces sentence of 400 years in jail

Agents net 'big fish mafioso' in shallows

BY QUENTIN LETTS

AN ALLEGED Mafia godfather has been arrested as he relaxed on a Florida beach.

FBI agents pounced on Nicholas "Little Nick" Corozzo when the alleged head of the Gambino crime family was at his most vulnerable, wearing nothing but a pair of floral bathing trunks and splashing around in the shallows of Key Biscayne beach.

Mr Corozzo, 56, who was allowed to put on a tracksuit before being driven away for questioning, is understood to have replaced John Gotti as the most powerful mobster in America. Gotti is serving a life sentence. Mr Corozzo's arrest was in almost farcical contrast to the bespoke-suited antics of Gotti, whose nickname was "the Dapper Don".

Officers appeared to have made him look foolish deliberately. It also meant they could be confident that he was not carrying a weapon.

Mr Corozzo is believed to have taken over the Gambino family's operations recently, when it became clear that Gotti would not be returning for some time. The clan allegedly runs extensive rackets in New York, Florida and elsewhere. Mr Corozzo was charged with numerous counts of usury, extortion and conspiracy to murder.

When Mr Corozzo and another alleged New York mafioso, Ralph Devino, arrived at the FBI headquarters in Miami they were still wearing their wet trunks. Mr Corozzo faces jail sentences totalling 400 years if convicted of all 20 charges against him.



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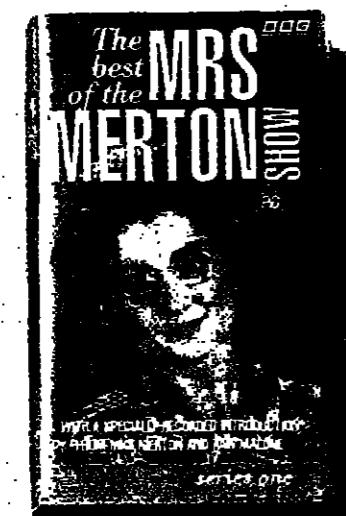
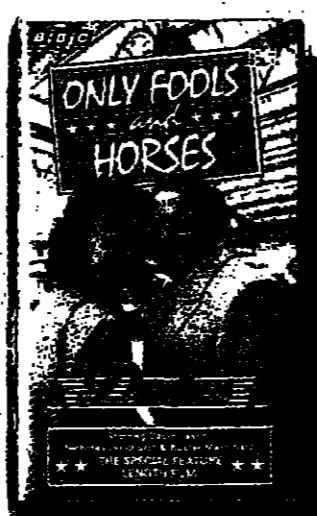
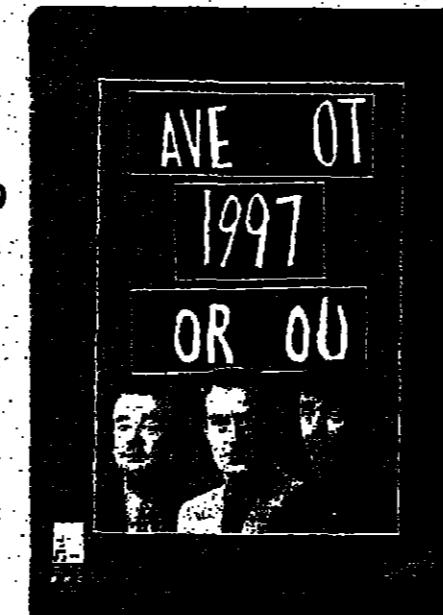
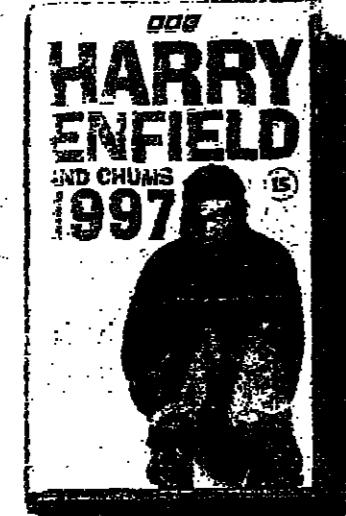
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The hijras are often bullied, but they make no effort to hide. They dress as women, and the chemical change that follows castration gives them womanly shapes. They control large property interests and have a close relationship with the police

The hidden world of the eunuchs

It is an tricky matter, when sitting in a packed Manhattan restaurant, to discuss human castration, but that was the task in hand with Zia Jaffrey.

Thirty-something Jaffrey — with old-fashioned modesty she would have one not disclose her exact age — has written a book about the eunuchs of India. It is called *The Invisibles* and is a curious cross between fiction and anthropology, travel book and journalistic exposé. It is a hybrid, like the eunuchs themselves.

India has as many as a million eunuchs leading 'invisible' lives. Zia Jaffrey was allowed into one house to witness and to write about their centuries-old secrets. Interview by Quentin Letts

Not that the word "eunuch" was easy to utter. The maître d' of the "21" Club, an old and estimable establishment off Fifth Avenue, pulled out one of the best tables in the house. To one side of us sat a group of four shoulder-padded "ladies who lunch", gorging on gossip and twitching with curiosity about neighbouring tables. On our other flank a couple of purple-nosed businessmen ex-

changed sexual boasts as they tucked in hunks of broiled cow. We could pretend to be discussing bullocks, perhaps.

The *hijras* (eunuchs of India) are many. At last reckoning it was 50,000, or perhaps a million. The wide discrepancy in estimates is typical of the teeming uncertainty of India, such is the physical difficulty of assembling any sort of headcount in that vast land

and the intellectual challenge of filtering Indian evasion and half-truth. "They fib," says Jaffrey. "It is something you have to realise. They just fib."

As someone who is herself a hybrid, half-Indian, half-American, she can get away with saying that sort of thing without being accused of race bias. Or can she? Her book has created a stir among the culturally sensitive publishing

elite of Manhattan for the way it presents Indian society in all its colours, good and bad.

"This was one of the doubts I had about the book — would Westerners be able to understand the complexity of issues?" she says. She had to fight to retain certain colourful passages. American intellectuals are awfully bad at acknowledging the flaws and human failings of foreign cultures.

There are also the beginnings of a controversy about the book in the Indian media, but for different reasons. There, people would rather she had never poked her snout into the hidden world of the eunuchs. They, like us in our smart New York restaurant, opt for euphemism and murmur when discussing the centuries-old eunuch colonies, which select their recruits from the disadvantaged young. "I expect the book will be published in India but I am a bit worried about it," says Jaffrey. She expects "some changes" will have to be made, and some names taken out to protect them from attack.

"When I am in India I feel American, and when I am in America I feel that I am an Indian," says Jaffrey. She was born in New York city, where her parents Saeed and Madhur Jaffrey had moved from India to work as actors. The couple divorced, and in the ensuing upheavals little Zia and her younger siblings were packed off to India to stay with in-laws while mother set to making her name as an actress and as Britain's favourite authority on Indian cooking.

Zia later returned to New York, but the steaming summers continued to be spent in Delhi and she now has a gift for catching, in her prose, the cacophony and scent of the bewitching subcontinent. She writes of passing through the spice markets, where the hot-peppered breeze stings the eyes. She describes hailing down dingy alleyways in maniacal motor rickshaws with drivers who, at the top of hills, switch off the engine with a yell of triumph, saving some petrol. She writes with a passion for the place, despite all its madness, and cruelty.

Encountering such fare, even when not sitting in a smart city lunchspot, gives one cause to pause.

Can such acts really be a fact of life in late 20th-century India?

(Answer: yes, and according to one rumour,

there is even a eunuch market somewhere in Goa, selling youngsters to the Middle East.) How should the modern West-

ern reader react? There is a

part of me that believes in

counselling and so forth — but

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says Jaffrey. "The Indian in

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the project later stalled and Zia went through a hiatus of her own. The "love of her life", Louis Broman, 38, died after a long illness. While he was dying, Zia was unable to concentrate on the book.

One of the benefits of having

Madhur Jaffrey for a mother

was the home cooking. "I had the best lunch sandwiches at school," she laughed. "Some kids would turn up with peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and I would be there with three prawns wrapped in beautiful sesame bread. I never wanted to swap lunches!"

Another advantage was the

access that her mother's promi-

nence gave her to creative

guides such as the film-makers Ismail Merchant and James Ivory, whom she lists in her acknowledgements, and in

having an ace literary agent

such as Andrew "The Jackal" Wylie. It was Wylie who sent

the manuscript of *The Invisibles* to Sonny Mehta at Pantheon Books in New York.

The old *hijra* Kamal Baksh, surrounded by her disciples, offered Jaffrey a view of her castration scar. "It was at that moment," the author recalls,

"that I learnt that as a writer I was an Indian and not a journalist. I declined her offer." She felt it would be unnecessary, and that the *hijras* had probably told her enough about their lives. What is the point of being an invisible if you show the world everything?

We rose from the table and left, followed, I could not help noticing, by the strangest of looks from the "21" Club's veteran head waiter.

• *The Invisibles* will be published by Phoenix House in July



this abominable practice", but no one took much notice.

The 19th-century British traveller Sir Richard Burton recorded the method of castration, which reportedly is not so very different today. "The parts are swept off by a single cut of the razor, a tube (tin or wooden) is set in the urethra, the wound is cauterised with boiling water, and the patient planted in a fresh dunghill... he often survives." The pudgily waiter appeared at our table, and left as quickly as he had arrived.

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own, blatant shadings of the truth.

Jaffrey scored a considerable coup by persuading a group of *hijras* in Hyderabad to admit her to their house and to betray some of the centuries-old secrets of their almost holy order. The house was, she recalls, "ascetic, rather like a monastery, but also with elements of a brothel". The *hijras* often live in comfort and have a highly efficient system of community, with an unofficial title on fellow eunuchs, an advanced level of care for their elderly, and a robust discipline. Kamal Baksh, a sepu-

ganarian "guru, sardar, chief, madam, father, mother" was the head eunuch of the Hyderabad house where Jaffrey went in 1984. That was the year much of the work on the book was done. Zia was working with a friend on a film, but

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Eunuchs have been a part of

'Boys can fly from flower to flower and enjoy romance'

John Sessions on the need for men to understand women better — and why he thinks of himself as a bluestocking who is not sexually attractive

John Sessions, self-styled Mr Swoty, will be seen on Christmas Day in a dramatisation of E. Nesbit's *The Treasure Seekers*. His childhood, though precious, was not the kind where E. Nesbit's stories such as *The Railway Children*, of middle-class children falling on hard times, were read aloud in the nursery. But he has made up for it since. Mentally and intellectually, he inhabits the late Victorian age.

We were going to meet in the Cadogan Hotel, which would doubtless have set him off on Wildean flights. The mere mention of the place has him quoting: "Mr Wilde, we must ask you to leave us quietly, for this is the Cadogan Hotel." Did I know Betjeman's poem? Well of course. Conversation with Sessions would be hopeless without some literary prep.

He wears his learning on his sleeve, letting allusion and cross-reference from his well-stocked mind. "Beggar him, Estella!" he suddenly cries in the voice of Edith Evans playing Miss Havisham. And, "They smile at me who shortly shall be dead" in the voice of Alec Clunes playing Hastings in Oliver's Richard III. He discourses on Ibsen, comparing Nora in *A Doll's House* to Alison in *Look Back in Anger*. If he had actually completed his PhD thesis (on John Cowper Powys) and become Dr Sessions, perhaps he would not feel compelled to display his erudition; but then he would have been lost to the stage, which would have been a pity.

When he first arrived on television in 1983 in *After Midnight*, with Ken Livingstone and Auberon Waugh — Clive Anderson was just the warm-up man — Sessions would sit alone addressing the camera, a little smile playing about his lips. The Scottish accent (he was born in Largs, but left Scotland at the age of three) inspired confidence; but he was already hard to place. What was he exactly? A sitdown comedian? A polemician?

We are still wondering. We know from *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* how easily he can improvise, going to the dentist in the style of Hemingway or Joyce. In cabaret, (for example, at *Private Eye's* recent 35th anniversary party) he does his Andrew Neil and his Prince of Wales. In *My Night With Reg*, in *Tartuffe*, and in Simon Gray's *The Common Pursuit*, he proved an impressive ensemble actor. But by inclination he is a one-man show man. After Napoleon, Boswell and Lord Leighton he would be doing Oscar Wilde. If Stephen Fry had not commandeered Oscar for now. Perhaps he could take on the pugnacious Frank Harris ...

He draws constantly on the past. Talking of E. Nesbit, a founder Fabian who worked for the poor and fell in love with Shaw, leads him to the struggles of Jane Austen, Fanny Burney, Mrs Gaskell, George Eliot, the Brontës, Louisa May Alcott, Beatrix Potter. Consider, he said, how females in adversity had been written about by Defoe, Richardson — and the "contained fury" that was the lot of any intelligent Victorian woman.

In *The Treasure Seekers*, the Bastable children try to stave off their widower father's financial ruin, aided by Sessions as the kindly bank manager. The fact that Mr Bastable is inventing a fridge leads Sessions to a disquisition on the technological inventiveness of the Edwardians.

The photographer needed a picture. Sessions ("Could I just take a wee drop of that?" — seizing a bottle of red wine from a waiter trying with undisguised impatience to clear up) removed his jacket and instantly began to clown like Chaplin and smirk like Stan Laurel for the camera.

That done, he returned, replaced jacket, and seamlessly proceeded to analyse the subplot he sees in Dora Bastable's relationship with her father. "Fathers and daughters — it's always King Lear and Cordelia," he mused. "I have observed it in my own family." He has a twin sister, Maggie, who after a difficult start (unlike her brother, she failed her H+ plus) is now a lawyer in Canada; he is spending Christmas with her. "We are very different," he says. "She looks like Sigourney Weaver, and she's always been a toughie. I have a theory that because girls, even when they're little, know they're going to produce babies, that makes them realists. Whereas boys know — depending on their proclivities — they can fly from flower to flower and enjoy the indulgence of romance. Even the gay ones do."

After Bangor University, Sessions went to Canada to do his MA and started his PhD. Then a theatre director friend told him he should either carry on being the "barathra-blazered, silk-squared gentleman player in amateur dramatics" or go professional. Hence his belated (near 26) application to drama school. Having got into the Guildhall, he went out celebrating and arrived at his Rada audition next morning with a terrific hangover. "I did Benedict's 'This can be no trick ... from Much Ado'." Hugh Cruttwell said: "That was terrible. You weren't acting, you were doing an impersonation of what an actor sounds like." So he did a bit of Pinter's *The Homecoming*, and was awarded a scholarship.

Working alongside Toby Stephens and Geraldine Chaplin last summer (on a film of *Cousin Bette*) made him ponder on the problems of the children of the famous. "You remember in *The Prelude*, when Wordsworth rows away across the lake and the mountain above seems to follow him and get bigger? I think all these whose folks are in the business — wee Beckinsale, wee Sam West — have these huge shadows after them. But it drives them too."

Not long ago Sessions spoke of withdrawing his benefice from the Labour Party. His vote remains with them. "But they have 'cabbin', cribbin', and confin'd' (*Macbeth*) some of their more eloquent spokesmen, like Tony Benn. The inner sanctum of the party tries to appear crisp, clean, efficient, cost-effective. They have assumed the agenda of the regime they combat.

"But perhaps people like myself should realise that Churchill had to break a few eggs to defeat Hitler. So I'll be sending them lots of money. But I don't want to see any hysterical public relations campaigns. I don't want them to spend it on T-shirts."

John Sessions: "I've spread myself too widely. I thought the game was jumping out of as many holes as possible — but it confuses people"

Hitler. So I'll be sending them lots of money. But I don't want to see any hysterical public relations campaigns. I don't want them to spend it on T-shirts."

Which leads him to broadcasting, and poor John Birt taking on the digital revolution. "I wish more people would come to his aid in his deeply courageous fight to preserve public broadcasting. The BBC's role is to lead and educate. It is the very crucible of our democracy. If public broadcasting goes, I will leave this country."

He is an avid listener to *Woman's Hour* (Jenni Murray should have an OBE) and says it behaves all men "whatever their denomination" to know more about women. He lives in Putney in solitary splendour on two floors of "a big white wedding cake of a house", but hankers after

Pimlico. In *The Treasure Seekers*, we see him at the wheel of a grand old De Dion Bouton; in real life he failed his driving test twice and gave up.

It turns out he auditioned for second Weasel in the *Wind in the Willows* film — "I played him as Alan Clark" — but did not get it. Meanwhile he is writing a show for *Rebecca Front*, on Picasso. *My Night With Reg* will be televised next spring. But tempting offers do not, he says, come tumbling onto his doormat. It's the old problem: what is he? "I'm a bit of a bluestocking, not instantly sexually attractive, and my comedy suits some people but some think it doesn't exist."

He will be 44 in January, so he is "into the second wind of the career". He thinks he has done all right so far, but not as well as he should have. "I've spread myself too widely. I thought the game was jumping out of as many holes as possible — but actually, that just confuses people."

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



Quentin Letts reports on the Christmas toy that is so popular even a Mafia boss has to say please to get one

Toy stores in America this December have witnessed ugly scenes, reminiscent of wartime England when a fresh delivery of nylon reached the local F.W. Woolworth.

The rationed goods, this time, are not toffees, bon-bons, Barnsley chops, or chicken necks. The things American parents are going mad for — at the behest of their children — are plump, reddish dolls which, when touched, will squirm and emit funny noises. They are called *Tickle Me Elmo* dolls and they have been an unexpected and quite amazing success.

In New Brunswick, a sales assistant was crushed under a surge of Elmo-deprived shoppers and taken to hospital. His branch of Wal-Mart had just received a consignment of *Tickle Me Elmo* and the poor fellow did not move fast enough. "Whoosh!" Trampled underfoot he was, and later borne away on a stretcher to be treated for shock and bruises.

Since the Christmas shopping season began in earnest, television news pictures have shown flurries of Elmo activity in local malls. There was the woman who held a one-armed Elmo. "Some other

Mom said she saw it first and we got into a fuggin' match," she explained. "Elmo got torn in two." She waved the doll's remaining paw at the camera to show the triumph of good over evil.

In New York City, with the Italianate swagger which has made his family one of the most feared at that smoky conurbation, John Gotti Jr and some associates made what the boys in his trade call a "courtesy call" to the nearby

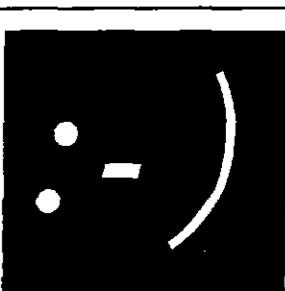
outlet of Toys 'R' Us. Mr Gotti is a capo of the Genovese Mafia clan. "Got any Elmo dolls, please?" he asked the toyshop manager with extreme politeness, his little pinky raised in supplication. And, what do you know, by some miracle they did have a few. A whole case, to be precise, which was handed over by the toy shop manager with a certain tremulousness of hand.

When a Mafia man wants something so bad he says "please", you know things are hot.

According to its manufacturer, Tyco Preschool, the shortage occurred because the trade made a monumental booboo about how popular the furry little thing was going to be. Reaction at the US Toy Fair in February was little more than lukewarm, and Tyco estimated selling 300,000 of the \$30 (£18) dolls. Things started to pick up in October, when Tyco cranked up its Far East machines to make 50,000 Elmos a week. By Christmas Eve the company will probably have sold one million Elmos.

Ovett, was until now a struggling inventor with life's cares on his shoulders. Now he is rich and — like the toy — full of laughter.

Elmo has even entered the political lexicon. A conservative magazine, *The Weekly Standard*, noted that when the President recently met China's Defence Minister, a Tiananmen tough called General Chi Haotian, the egregious Mr Clinton went into "Tickle-Me-Bill" mode. Perhaps that is why this toy has been such a success in America. It matches the country's all-grinning, all-accommodating spirit of the age.



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Why America's mothers are fighting it out over Elmo

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In New York City, with the Italianate swagger which has made his family one of the most feared at that smoky conurbation, John Gotti Jr and some associates made what the boys in his trade call a "courtesy call" to the nearby

outlet of Toys 'R' Us. Mr Gotti is a capo of the Genovese Mafia clan. "Got any Elmo dolls, please?" he asked the toyshop manager with extreme politeness, his little pinky raised in supplication. And, what do you know, by some miracle they did have a few. A whole case, to be precise, which was handed over by the toy shop manager with a certain tremulousness of hand.

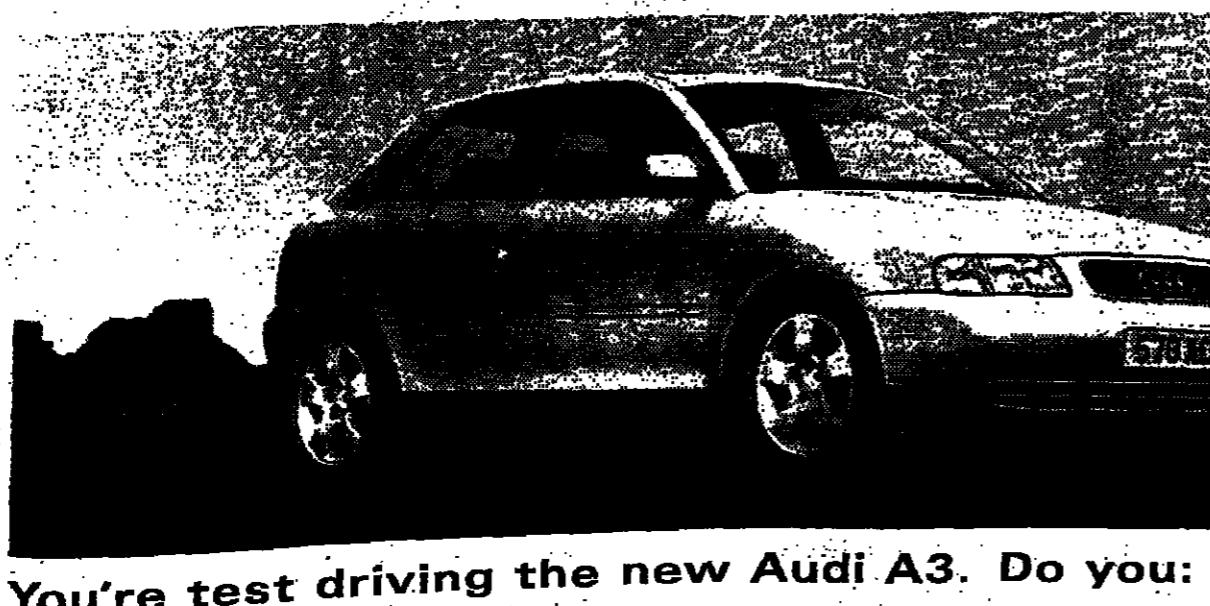
When a Mafia man wants

something so bad he says "please", you know things are hot.

According to its manufacturer, Tyco Preschool, the shortage occurred because the trade made a monumental booboo about how popular the furry little thing was going to be. Reaction at the US Toy Fair in February was little more than lukewarm, and Tyco estimated selling 300,000 of the \$30 (£18) dolls. Things started to pick up in October, when Tyco cranked up its Far East machines to make 50,000 Elmos a week. By Christmas Eve the company will probably have sold one million Elmos.

Ovett, was until now a struggling inventor with life's cares on his shoulders. Now he is rich and — like the toy — full of laughter.

Elmo has even entered the political lexicon. A conservative magazine, *The Weekly Standard*, noted that when the President recently met China's Defence Minister, a Tiananmen tough called General Chi Haotian, the egregious Mr Clinton went into "Tickle-Me-Bill" mode. Perhaps that is why this toy has been such a success in America. It matches the country's all-grinning, all-accommodating spirit of the age.



You're test driving the new Audi A3. Do you:

- a) find a narrow ravine with a broken bridge, slam into second and leap the gap shouting 'Geronimo'?
- b) roar past a wall of fire at the side of the road to an eighties soundtrack?
- c) just go for a drive?

Audi

A bridge too far for London

Roger Scruton indicts the latest monstrosity of a modernist cartel

Londoners have abruptly been informed of a project to build a new bridge across the Thames — a habitable bridge, supporting flats and offices. The structure, designed by the French modernist Antoine Grumbach, will dominate the Thames, and cast the diminutive St Paul's into shadow. The Royal Academy tells us that "the public" has voted two to one in favour of it. Only a few bureaucratic hurdles remain between this idea and the hideous reality.

It is surprising to be told of this popular desire for Grumbach's building, at a time when educated Londoners are turning their backs on modernism, relieved to find that architects still exist who are prepared to respect the old human scale, the old line of the street, and the old sense of detail inherited from the classical tradition. Clearly something is afoot, and this case is a telling illustration of the process whereby a modernist establishment has perpetuated itself, manipulating our rulers and planners, and imposing its half-baked schemes for social regeneration on the voiceless multitudes below.

The vote announced by the Royal Academy was about as

The choice was only between rival modernists

work? First, modernist projects are huge, expensive and result in buildings with vast maintenance costs. Hence they are, from the point of view of their architects, immensely lucrative, and the source of permanent income in the form of constant repair work.

Secondly, establishments that used to be composed of sober, conservative people, with inherited status that they were anxious to preserve, are now formed in another and opposing way. In the modern world, patronage is in the hands of the State — in other words, in the hands of the bureaucrats, politicians and scoundrels who live from our taxes, and who have a vested interest in change since it is the motor of their own advancement. "Progress" is the ideology through which these apparatchiks assert and justify their domination.

The Academy cooks up an exhibition entitled *Living Bridges*, organised by Peter Murray, editor of *Blueprint*, a publication devoted to the modernist idea. The Academy then appoints a panel of judges, led by Sir Philip Dowson — the ageing trendy who is also its president, as well as being senior partner in the modernist firm of Ove Arup, and unselected member (for 26 years) of the Royal Fine Art Commission, which has done so much to extend the dead hand of modernism over city planning. The 12 judges include Gordon Graham, president of the RIBA, a quasi-masonic coterie of modernists dedicated to imposing their values on the rest of us. Only two of the judges, John Gummer and his adviser Liam O'Connor, have ever been known to dissent from modernist orthodoxy.

The competition is not put out to tender. On the contrary, the judges invite seven carefully selected firms of architects to submit six designs: six modernists, and one token reactionary (Krier Associates). The judges, failing to agree, choose two "winning designs" — one the piece of modernist kitsch by Grumbach, the other a typical doodle from Zaha

Finally we should take account of the appeal of the half-educated. Modernism wipes away piecemeal knowledge and slowly acquired wisdom, and puts a comprehensive system in their place. As every child with a Lego set can discover, it requires neither culture nor talent nor skill to be a modernist. At the same time, modernism enables its adepts to posture as members of an enlightened *avant garde*. In the words of Shaftesbury, the most ingenious way of becoming foolish is by a system.

That in short is how it is that the presidency of the Royal Academy — an institution founded to safeguard artistic values against the corrosion of the modern world — came to be bestowed upon someone wedded to an aesthetic which threatens our architectural heritage, and which clutters our once beautiful city with projects from which no one gains benefit. The carol of architects who promote them.

One Wednesday evening, however, he brought a table of ten to a fundraising dinner at the Café Royal in London for the Conservative Friends of Israel. "It is an organisation within the arena of the Conservative Party," Chinn reluctantly admitted yesterday. So within the arena, in fact, that the Prime Minister turned up to make a speech. A six-figure sum was raised for the Conservative Friends for Israel, and Conservative Central Office will be receiving a tidy slice of that.

"My interest is in Israel," insists Chinn. "I am just as involved with the Labour Friends of Israel." Just to complete the circle, Chinn

donor." So to sum up Chinn's position: not really a considerable donor to Labour while not the sort to attend real Conservative doings. The politicians would be proud.

• Alan Howarth, the Tory MP who defected to Labour last year, continues to rise within his new party. He is still looking for a seat, but he has just been co-opted on to the executive of the Fabian Society. "He joined the society as soon as



Growing up as killers

How did children in Britain learn to take human life? We are living in an age that is unshockable

I have always admired the Labour MP Frank Field. His work is sensible and honest, and he helps those who need help. A while ago, he wrote an article in the *Daily Mail* which — but let him speak for himself:

The new barbarians: a growing army of louts and thugs who make life hell for my most vulnerable constituents. The biggest change I have seen in my Birkenhead constituency since I was elected in 1979 is the seemingly unstoppable rise of this underclass of brutish and almost unemployed young males who "mature" into anti-social, often criminal, adults.

I said that I admire Field, and I do, but I have to add that if he has just discovered these barbarians, he must have been asleep for a considerable time. Let us begin with three photographs. The first is a man in middle age: he is one of three brothers. He lives rough, but doesn't seem to mind, and he can always be found on a park bench. He is a known and friendly figure. The second photograph shows a young boy, aged 13. He looks a nice lad, with a pleasing smile. The third character is the same age, but he looks a nasty little runt. He is. So was the other boy — his smile was untrue.

The two boys — remember they were both 13 — tortured the homeless man to death. He was robbed, hit, kicked, covered by poured molten plastic, and finally set alight. His burns were such that he was in agony for three weeks before he died.

I repeat that the two boys were 13 years of age in plain English: they killed a human being for fun. Now, what I want to know is — how did little children in Britain become like this?

But try this. Peter Moore, 50, the homosexual owner of a cinema chain killed four men for the pleasure he derived from the act of murder. The men he killed were complete strangers, none of whom had done anything to annoy or aggravate him. Moore's first victim was Henry Roberts, a retired railwayman who lived as a recluse near Anglesey. The second victim was Edward Carthy, who was stabbed to death with a combat knife and of whom Moore said, "I think he was a bit frightened, actually". The third was Tony Davies. His fourth victim was Keith Randles, and Moore said this about

the way his victim died: "There was a certain enjoyment from it but the enjoyment certainly wasn't sexual. Like everything, it was a job well done. You know, the job was done." When a victim asked why he was going to be killed, Moore replied "For fun".

Now we turn to the old man (truly old — he was 84), Kenneth Speakman, who was a member of a shooting club in Ramsgate: he was murdered for his guns. He was a highly respected resident of Ramsgate. He was very sprightly. He had been interested in guns all his life.

They are the new barbarians: a

growing army of louts and thugs who make life hell for my most vulnerable constituents.

Now do please believe me when I say that this hideous catalogue of dreadfulness is not compelled just to cause nausea, though there is plenty of nausea to come. All these terrible things have a meaning, and a particular meaning.

But there is more. A wandering man, whom none would harm, found himself harmed to death, and a very terrible one it was. But that is not the point: killers abound, and always have. More to the point, the shocking Bulger case was not only a "one-off", but something quite different: it is clear that the boys who did

Bernard Levin

another human being, and even how it is done?

I say it again. There are, in our civilised Great Britain, children who are hardly out of their swaddling-clothes who know how to kill human beings, and some of them have actually killed human beings, and some of those have killed human beings for fun.

And the father of the dead child said: "We have tried to bring our children up correctly, but law and order is a joke when you have got gangs running around wild. We never hit Louise even once, we didn't have to. You only had to shout at her and she would burst into tears." And the father of the dead child added: "I brought her up the way I was brought up myself: respect your elders, be polite, and have good manners."

As usual, the hall was clamorous with folly and simulated passion. The bastards, rebels and prigs on his back benches were in full cry, baying for Bedlam. The microphones crackled with the bellowing of the mad cows of both sexes, enraged about Euronics, the new coinage proposed for Europe. A new leakage of sleaze was driving them wild. And a tired grey figure at the dispatch box was trying to repeat for the third time the empty sounds that his rhetoric coaches had written and rehearsed for him.

Stooge pointed a trembling finger at the figure at the dispatch box. "Dread Spectre," he cried "Can that be?" But the spectral Speaker was already dragging Stooge backwards through time to a more gracious parliamentary age.

Prune Minister's Questions were then no burling. The statesman at the dispatch box (he looked like the Walrus in *Alice*) was reading an answer he had composed for himself in fountain pen on the back of an envelope. It merely said that he proposed to transfer the question to his right honourable friend, whose responsibility it was.

True, but it is only the edge. Louts and thugs, new barbarians, stone-throwers, yes, but this is not adequate to describe the world we are now sinking into. I want to know why that hideous killing of Alan White took place, and I must know why a little child did it.

And again, I turn to the terrible impossible. Hear the prosecutor for the case saying, "There is no doubt the defendants knew that what they were doing was wrong". Then in the name of God, how did such children know what it is to kill

should have known exactly what they were doing. As should those children who killed Louise Allen.

These are not scraps from my album, and if they were, there would be a clue. When the Louise Allen case was in court, someone murmured these words: "It is another shocking example of school-age gang violence sweeping the country." And what did Frank Field say? "They are the new barbarians: a growing army of louts and thugs who make life hell for my most vulnerable constituents."

I decided to take a walk down to the graveyard. I wanted to go to see the flowers of my neighbour's husband's grave. I thought I would go through the grass. I was walking towards the grave and I passed my husband's plaque when someone from behind pushed me and I fell to the ground. He seemed amused and was laughing. I was screaming and yelling as loud as I could. I said to him: "Why don't you get a younger woman? I am in my nineties." He said "It doesn't make any difference." I was helpless and there was nothing I could do.

The young man who did that, Steven Barton, has been caught, tried, convicted and has started a 12-year sentence.

Pass.

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When the dead had no conception of murder or indeed any kind of evil.

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and killed him in the most dreadful manner imaginable,

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SPEAK, MEMORY

From Brixton to Bahamas: the dangers of politicians abroad

Many statesmen, from Julius Caesar to General Galtieri, have embarked on adventures abroad to burnish their reputation. But the past too is a foreign country ripe for colonisation by politicians.

This week Tony Blair took the trip down memory lane that John Major, Bill Clinton and Ronald Reagan have followed before him. The trip was not an unalloyed success. His TV tale of a failed teenage trip to the Bahamas seems to have been more heavily embroidered than the Bayeux tapestry. Archer's syndrome, the condition of allowing natural creativity free play with one's memory of life before politics, is not, it seems, confined to Lord Archer.

We should not, however, be too censorious: we recipients of memories must share some of the guilt with the inventors of them. Politicians are now too packaged; every sound they emit is too bitten into shape; voters are thirsty for evidence of what their leaders are really like. The better they know what they did before they entered public life, the better they think they can judge their real fitness for it.

The public interest in Mrs Blair and Mrs Major may seem a frivolous distraction from the real beauty contest between competing tax regimes. But voters are fascinated by the leaders' wives because their choice of partner was the most important decision Messrs Blair and Major made before they entered the Commons. The choice of Cherie and Norma can be held to say more about their respective spouses than any number of rarely enlightening, keynote speeches about core values.

Party spin-doctors, sensitive to how suspicious the public have become of current pronouncements, have become increasingly alive to the power of the past. Try Memory, or Coldharbour Lane, Prime Minister. A boyhood in Brixton is now thought to communicate concern for the less fortunate more effectively than the pledge of another billion pounds for the National Health Service. The Marxists have been proved right: the personal, now, is always political. President Clinton was elected on a

promise to re-invent Government but his main political achievement seems to have been re-inventing himself. Slick Willie, the hustler from Hot Springs, a louche Arkansas gambling town became Bill, the boy from a town called Hope who in his journey from fatherless cabin to the Governor's mansion embodied the American Dream.

Mr Blair has been criticised for borrowing from the US President's campaign style. But it is Mr Major's own dramatisation of his journey from two rooms in South London to 10 Downing Street that seems the more obvious homage. From the 1992 election broadcast, *The Journey* to the 1996 party conference sideswipe at Labour's old school ties. Mr Major has turned his narrative into a metaphor for meritocracy. Mr Major's earliest years in the suburban security of Worcester Park, his undistinguished academic record and his reliance on the patronage of others, such as Anthony Barber, have all been eclipsed by the careful construction of a Major myth.

Mr Blair, whose journey from Fettes to the Bar via St John's College Oxford is hardly an odyssey of the underprivileged, has had to work hard to pepper his past with moving moments. In his party conference speech this year the Labour leader opened his heart to talk of his father's illness. The emotion was sincere but the effect was mixed. The British, despite the efforts of Vanessa and Esther, tend not to like their emotions raw. Bare souls induce the same embarrassment among most Britons as bared bodies, even at special seaside corals such as nudist beaches or party conferences.

Mr Blair's latest schoolboy memory, bunking off to the Bahamas, seems as though it might have been designed to convey a hint of rebelliousness, to temper the Labour leader's toothy wholesomeness. Mr Blair may feel that sharing his past sins makes him more human; so it may do. But it would be desirable if politicians refrained from telling the voters so much about the journeys they have made in the past and so little about where they propose to take the country in the future.

DONS AND DATA

Assessment of university research is difficult but worthwhile

League tables and external scrutiny are now an established part of British education. While schools may not love them the tables have been accepted and in some cases actively embraced. So far as any debate about them remains it concerns the best means of producing the most informative material. Universities, on the other hand, show few signs of even grudging respect for external evaluation. Although the figures published yesterday, and reproduced in *The Times* this morning, are the result of the fourth such review in ten years, they still have few friends in the common rooms.

Some of the more lurid accusations of the past — such as the claim that the whole concept was a monstrous threat to academic freedom — seem to have been quietly dropped. Instead complaints focus in three main areas: that the bureaucratic demands made in collecting the required data are excessive; that it is impossible to make meaningful judgments between radically different forms of research; and that funding should not be contingent on this formula.

All three arguments have some truth but not enough to invalidate the project. Any system which requires 60 panels to examine 69 subject areas through four submitted pieces of research per staff member is going to generate an enormous amount of paperwork. After the last exercise in 1992 the Higher Education Funding Council promised a less burdensome structure for future years. It has not delivered. Such bureaucracy clearly imposes costs in terms of academic time. But there have also been benefits. Even *dons* in the most ancient universities will concede, through gritted teeth, that outside pressure has forced them to develop research strategies and deal with

those staff members whose output has been inexplicably low or persistently poor.

It is not easy to devise objective criteria for measuring research quality. With schools there is an agreed and commonly identified common benchmark — examination results — that can be used as a yardstick. No such simple medium exists for the output of dons. Nonetheless, both in the arts and sciences there are enough similarities to allow for the sort of intensive peer group review that was the hallmark of the 1996 enterprise. Academics seem content to use the same technique when deciding upon the appointments of professors. Engaging in the abstract thesis that there is no such notion as objective good may make for stimulating philosophical debate. It is not a basis from which the Department for Education can proceed.

On the matter of funding the critics have a valid point. After 1992 an elite set of 15 mostly older universities suggested that they receive virtually all available resources to concentrate on research while the rest made teaching their near-exclusive purpose. That was always a rather self-serving suggestion. It would be very hard to justify on the results now published. Some 59 universities have at least one department that has attained the highest grade available, one that implies the majority of output is at an international standard. That does not suggest that research funding should be allocated wholly on so narrow a basis.

The majority of our universities should continue to seek both high-quality research and teaching. This research exercise has highlighted a broadly based improvement since four years ago. Most *dons* would support that conclusion even if they detect the means by which it was generated.

EVEREST OF THE SPIRIT

The risk may be less but the search remains the same

Sir Randolph Fiennes failed in his latest quest to trek alone across the breadth of Antarctica. Kidney stones crippled him after only 26 days, and he had to be airlifted to hospital in Chile. Yesterday he returned to Britain, a haggard and disappointed man. Yet even his failure has something heroic about it. The ageing, craggy explorer set himself one of the most challenging endurance tests in the world's most inhospitable continent, and made rapid progress. He continued even when in agony, crossing a formidable ridge in a near blizzard and displaying to the video camera the toll this took on his bandaged feet and broken body. On arriving at Heathrow he announced that he is off to Siberia for his next expedition.

Sir Randolph is a very English eccentric in the tradition of Scott, Livingstone, Wilfred Thesiger and others who have battled their way through deserts and icefields beyond the endurance of ordinary mortals, surviving as much on willpower as on their meager rations. Getting there first was the motive that drove them on. The satisfaction for Livingstone and Sir Edmund Hillary was to plant their flags in places where their countrymen had never ventured before. Scott paid with his life for his determination to achieve similar glory for England. In all,

willpower combined with obstinacy, hubris and masochism to fashion bodies and nerves of steel.

Critics can point to the artificial nature of such ventures nowadays. For if an explorer is crippled by frostbite, a lone yachtsman becalmed or a balloonist marooned in the desert, he can radio for help and wait until he is airlifted to safety. For Amundsen, Magellan and Lindbergh there was no such lifeline; they were testing the limits of endurance and technology on their own, and either made it or died in the attempt. Nowadays there are few natural frontiers left to explore, apart from the deepest trenches of the seabed or the wastes of outer space. Those who set out to walk across the Antarctic, race to the North Pole or circumnavigate the globe in a tiny vessel are imposing upon themselves conditions that they could ignore if they wished.

The challenge nowadays has therefore subtly changed. Those who excite our imagination and awe are the men and women who pitch themselves not against the simple elements but against their own handicaps or limitations. Sir Randolph is now 52. His body bears the scars of earlier expeditions, and each further quest is a greater physical and psychological Everest.

Duke's views on gun legislation

From Mr Tony Hill

Sir, The Duke of Edinburgh likens guns to cricket bats (reports, December 19). If Thomas Hamilton had entered a gym with a cricket bat in his hand how many people could he have battered to death before being restrained by the adults?

The Duke should consider the real reasons for a call to ban handguns (letters, December 16, 17). Our society is getting more and more violent, and many of us do feel threatened. No doubt most members of gun clubs are "peaceable" citizens, and of no general risk, but there is that possibility that their guns could be used in anger or distress, as were Michael Ryan's and Thomas Hamilton's. Both were accepted members of the shooting fraternity until they turned their guns on innocent people.

The removal of any weapons from circulation has got to be a good step.

Yours etc,
TONY HILL,
15 The Slade,
Silverstone, Northamptonshire.
December 19.

From the Reverend Charles Jenkins

Sir, The Duke of Edinburgh is mistaken when he says the Government's Bill on handgun legislation is blameworthy. The shooting community for the tragedy at Dunblane. The type of weapons themselves was a significant factor in what drove Thomas Hamilton.

It is surely not incidental that the atrocities at Hungerford and Dunblane were committed with automatic and high-calibre weapons, the sheer power of which can go to a madman's head. The nature of 22 handguns and rifles, by contrast, encourages more self control.

More stringent checks on individuals will not help, in my view: is the shooting community really prepared to put up with the invasion of privacy, and extremely cautious presumption of fitness, that would be necessary to stop determined and ingenious psychopaths from obtaining high-powered weapons legally? The only way is to ban them.

Far from being a knee-jerk reaction or fudge, the legislation's main proposals appear to me to find a very good balance between appropriate gun control and the legitimate rights of shooters. Why does anyone need to target-shoot with .45 pistols if not to participate in some way in an unhealthy macho culture? My view that this is immoral was confirmed when I saw a TV news report showing images of human beings as targets in a gun club.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES JENKINS,
The Rectory, 67 Dalby Road,
Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.
December 19.

From Mr Mark Marsh

Sir, Predictably, those who seek the prohibition of handguns have responded with emotion and crude insult to the Duke of Edinburgh's remarks.

I applaud the Duke. I have never owned a handgun, and have no wish to, but I do wish this debate were conducted in a rational manner. I regret that, thus far, it has been driven by emotion and I agree with Douglas Hurd that this is no basis for legislation.

Yours faithfully,
MARK MARSH,
5 Columbus Square,
Manor Road, Erit, Kent.
December 18.

From Mr K. Seedhouse

Sir, When Thomas Hamilton planned the destruction of the children of Dunblane, the termination of his own life was presumably of equal importance to his tormented mind. Perhaps the Duke has not considered how Hamilton could turn a cricket bat against himself.

Yours faithfully,
K. SEEDHOUSE,
4 The Burrows,
Cuddington, Cheshire.
December 19.

From Mr L. T. Allen

Sir, The Duke of Edinburgh obviously felt that it is better to be right than politically correct.

Yours faithfully,
L. T. ALLEN,
30 Prescott Fields,
Bashchurch, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
December 19.

Support for disabled

From the Reverend Peter D. McGuire

Sir, Alan Challone (letter, December 12) says that caring for a disabled child "may undermine the family structure, causing disruption in the lives of siblings, and unmitigated stress to their parents".

The fact that many "normal" children also have these effects surely points to problems and stresses of family life being more complicated than he suggests.

Yours sincerely,
PETER D. MCGUIRE,
9 Castle Hill, Eckington,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
December 19.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

UK universities 'at a crossroads'

From Sir Richard Luce,
Vice-Chancellor of the
University of Buckingham

Sir, In your report of December 13 on the LSE governing body's decision, in principle, to allow the introduction of top-up fees for students (see also leading article, December 14), you refer to the experience of the University of Buckingham as the only independent university.

The Duke should consider the real

A radical rather than piecemeal approach is needed, but one that is implemented over a reasonable timespan. We must give all universities their independence by freeing them from dependence on direct government funding.

That freedom will facilitate a diverse range of universities able to accommodate an increasingly large and varied student market — from school leavers to mature students studying full-time or part-time, using a number of learning methods. Universities' success will depend upon matching the quality of service they can offer the student to the purposes of their particular missions.

This strategy must be buttressed by a new funding system, at the heart of which should be the recognition that those students who can afford to do so should have to pay a share of their tuition fees. The LSE has proposed a sliding-scale method of support governed by the income of the student or their parents. Those who are not funded directly by the State must be encouraged to develop savings and loan schemes to enable them to pay their fees.

It requires courage on the part of both universities and politicians to journey down this path. The LSE should be congratulated on taking this decision and acting as a catalyst for change.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD LUCE,
Vice-Chancellor,
The University of Buckingham,
Buckingham MK18 1EG.
December 16.

CPS and the disclosure of evidence

From Mr Christopher Wilson-Smith, QC

Sir, The legal profession will have read with grave disquiet the proposal that the Crown Prosecution Service and the police will determine the circumstances in which unused material is disclosed to the defence (report, December 11).

Experience has shown that the CPS or the police seldom give adequate attention to unused material, while it is normal for the defence to review this material with care. It is surprising how often evidence of crucial importance to the defence is discovered in this material.

The profession will have no confidence in a system where the defence are dependent on the Crown or the police to determine what they should see and what they consider relevant. It is pre-

cisely this situation which has led to serious miscarriages of justice. Objectivity is what is required — a quality for which the prosecuting authorities have not always been renowned.

These proposals appear to be a unilateral and fundamental change of policy. I suspect that the courts would be very concerned if there were to be such a far-reaching change in what is now accepted practice; and it will place an intolerable burden on those who prosecute at the Bar.

Surely, it is still an important principle that justice must be seen to be done. What Barbara Mills, QC, contemplates will do nothing to enhance this maxim.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER WILSON-SMITH,
35 Essex Street, Temple, WC2.
December 12.

Role of Croatia

From the Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia

Sir, I express my deepest astonishment at your leading article of November 29, "The egg revolution", in which you attempted to equate the policies and roles of the Croatian President, Dr Franjo Tudjman, with those of the Serbian President, Slobodan Milosevic. Such a thesis is totally unfounded and misplaced.

President Tudjman was among the first to offer a political solution to the so-called Yugoslav crisis. Croatia was first to recognise the independence of successor states to former Yugoslavia, including Bosnia-Herzegovina. Under the determined leadership of President Tudjman, Croatia played a decisive role in changing the balance of power in the region last year, thus reversing a major part of the earlier gains of Greater Serbian expansionism and creating the strategic conditions that finally lead to the conclusion of the Dayton peace agreement. The

full implementation of that agreement is one of Croatia's national goals.

President Tudjman's commitment to co-operate fully with the international community contributed decisively in establishing Croatia as a stable and potentially prosperous country based on democratic pluralism and free market economy.

Unlike Serbia, Croatia is a member of all the major international organisations — including the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the International Monetary Fund and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development — and the international banking community regards Croatia now as a highly desirable partner.

Your attempt to artificially equate Croatia and Serbia, and their leaders, can serve no constructive purpose.

Yours faithfully,
ANTE CICIN-SAIN,
Embassy of the Republic of Croatia,
21 Conway Street, WI.
December 18.

Jams tomorrow

From Professor Emeritus Anthony Ralston

Sir, Richard Bodwo is quite right to stress the need for more investment in public transport systems in London (letter, December 14; see also letters November 20, 27 and December 4). He is also correct that investment alone will not be enough to solve the fast-approaching traffic gridlock in London and that there is a need to "initiate a city-wide strategy which includes sticks as well as carrots".

There is only one "stick" that has much chance of working. This is road pricing. Drivers wishing to enter London during peak traffic times must pay for that privilege and those living in London must also pay for driving during peak periods. Until recently such a policy would have been technically infeasible but the technology now exists.

While implementing road pricing would be expensive, the cost would be rapidly recovered by the charges. Additionally such charges could provide a source of revenue for upgrading public transport.

Undoubtedly road pricing would be unpopular with many, but it does stand a fair chance of ameliorating, if not solving, London's traffic problems. The chief impediment is neither fiscal nor technological, but rather an absence of political will to propose such a policy and to carry through its introduction.

Sincerely,
ANTHONY RALSTON,
Flat 4, Albert Court,
St Prince Consort Road, SW7.
December 19.

Royal succession

From Mrs Sylvia Disley

Sir, On the question of equal rights of succession to the throne, Nigel Miskin (letter, December 17) asks: "Is it not rather arrogant for us to presume to dictate to future generations in this way?"

By that token, has not this country always been labouring under an arrogant presumption that only male heirs can succeed?

Mr Miskin questions changing the present order of succession



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 19: Commander Richard Aylard RN was received by The Queen upon relinquishing his appointment as Private Secretary and Treasurer to The Prince of Wales.

Mr John Doyle (President, Royal Watercolour Society) was received by The Queen and presented a book containing a collection of sketches to mark Her Majesty's Seventieth Birthday.

Mrs Judy Dixey (Galler Director) and Mr Francis Bowyer and Miss Claire Dalby (Vice-Presidents) were present.

The Queen held a Council at 12.30.

There were present: The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP (Lord President), the Lord Mackay of Ardbrecknish (Minister of State, Department of Social Security), the Rt Hon Michael Portillo MP (Secretary of State for Defence), the Rt Hon Sir Patrick Mayhew MP (Secretary of State for Northern Ireland), the Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke MP (Chancellor of the Exchequer) and the Rt Hon Lord James Douglas-Hamilton MP (Minister of State, Scottish Office).

The Rt Hon Sir John Major was sworn in as a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council. Mr Nigel Nichols was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

Polar Medals
The Queen has been pleased to approve the following awards for outstanding achievement and service to British Polar Research:

Antarctic 1992-94

Nigel Brian Dean, diesel mechanic; Steven Thomas Dow, plumber and winter base commander

Antarctic 1993-95

Steven Robert Cuthbertson, meteorologist and communications manager

Antarctic 1994-95

Duncan Haigh, physicist and winter base commander

Antarctic to 1995

Brian Mallon, electrician and winter base commander

Antarctic to 1996

Philip Stuart Anderson, meteorologist; Stuart Andrew Bell, electronics technician and radio operator

Antarctic and Arctic to 1996

Robert Welsley Burton, meteorologist, biological assistant and museum curator

London University
Professor David Cannadine, Moore College Professor of History at Columbia University, New York, to be Director of the Institute of Historical Research from May 1, 1998.

The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP had an audience of His Majesty before the Council.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, Order of St Ethelreda, today attended a Luncheon at the Deansery, Canterbury Cathedral, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire [Mr James Crowden].

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 19: The Duke of York this afternoon left Hong Kong for the Philippines.

His Royal Highness was received on arrival at Manila Airport by Her Majesty's Ambassador (His Excellency Mr Adrian Thorpe).

Later the Duke of York was received by the President of the Republic of the Philippines at the Presidential Palace.

His Royal Highness this evening attended a Reception given by Her Majesty's Ambassador at the British Embassy.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 19: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this evening attended a Gala Concert at the Stables Theatre, Wavendon, Milton Keynes, given by John Dankworth and Cleo Laine in aid of the refurbishment of the theatre.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire (Commander The Lord Cotesloe).

Mr N.M. Turner and Miss L.J. Smart

The engagement is announced between Nicola, elder son of Mr and Mrs P.J. Turner, of Wargrave, Berkshire, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R.D.V. Knight of St John's Wood, London.

Mr R.D.A. Windle and Miss C.E. Knight

The engagement is announced between Roy, son of Professor and Mrs A.H. Windle, of Cambridge, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.D.V. Knight of St John's Wood, London.

Mr A.G. Proctor and Miss C.E. Blake

The engagement is announced between Andrew, second son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Proctor, of Ripley, Surrey, and Courtney, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Victor Blake, of Cobham, Surrey.

Mr A.D.J. Ramsay and Miss S.C.M. Pritchard

The engagement is announced between Adam, younger son of Mr David Ramsay, of Petersfield, and the late Mrs Jane Ramsay, and Suzanne, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Charles Pritchard, of West Ashling, Chichester, West Sussex.

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Lord-Lieutenant

Sir Paul Nicholson to be Lord-Lieutenant for the county of Durham in succession to Mr David Grant who will be retiring on January 18, 1997.

John Langlois Loeb

A memorial service for John Langlois Loeb will be held on Thursday, January 16, 1997 at 11am at Temple Emanuel, Fifth Avenue and 68th Street, New York.

Legal appointment

Mrs Sarah Anne Williams to be a full-time chairman of Social Security, Medical, Disability and Child Support Appeal Tribunals from January 20 1997.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.T.M. Ind and Lady Iona Hay
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of Dr and Mrs John Ind, of Chelsea, London and Iona Charlotte, second daughter of the Earl and Countess of Kinnoull, of Abernyte, Perthshire.

Mr N.J. Hodson and Miss M.L.L. Smulders

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs Denys Hodson, of Fairford, Gloucestershire, and Mary-Lou, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Smulders-Grasso, of Thousand Oaks, California.

Mr P. Jensen and Miss K.E. Walsh

The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Swend Jensen, of Highgate, London and Katherine, only daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs John Walsh, of Belfast.

Mr J.R.M. Petter and Miss M. Walsh

The engagement is announced between John, younger son of Mr and Mrs Michael Petter, of Brabourne, Kent, and Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Walsh, of Norwood, London.

Mr A.G. Proctor

Mr and Mrs C.E. Blake

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GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

Mr and Mrs G. and E. Bullock-Maree on December 20th

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OBITUARIES

MARCELLO MASTROIANNI

Marcello Mastroianni, Italian film star, died in Paris yesterday aged 72. He was born on September 28, 1924.

The career in films of the greatest of all Italian male stars lasted for almost fifty years, although it was not until he played the wry, womanising gossip writer around whom Fellini's *La Dolce Vita* (1960) whirled that he became internationally celebrated.

Mastroianni brought to many of his roles, even in the lightest romantic comedies, a soulful languor, a sadness behind the eyes that women invariably found irresistible.

He was, in the words of the critic Alexander Walker, "a suitable case for care". He possessed the sort of self-mocking charm that had made Cary Grant a great star, together with the same kind of super-smooth, invisible technique that projected the comfortable illusion that his performances had evolved entirely naturally.

Marcello Mastroianni was born in Fontana Liri, a country village near Frosinone, to the southeast of Rome. His father was a cabinet maker who, when the boy was five, migrated to Turin, moving on from there a few years later to Rome.

As a youth, when the war started Mastroianni was studying surveying and draughtsmanship. His ambitions to become an architect were dashed at 19 when the German occupiers sent him to a forced labour camp in the north of Italy. He managed to escape, and hid out for the duration in Venice, where he would draw pictures of its landmarks to sell for food.

When the war ended, he obtained a job in Rome with the accounts department of Eagle-Lion, a British film company that was a subsidiary of the Rank Organisation. In the evenings he began acting with university students, one of whom was Giulietta Masina, who was then already the wife of Federico Fellini.

His modest film debut was made in 1947, with a small

part in one of the innumerable cinema versions of Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*, in this instance directed by Riccardo Freda, with Gino Cervi and Valentino Cortese in the leads.

In the following year he was offered a role in Luchino Visconti's stage production of *As You Like It*, which led to parts in other plays performed by his company.

Mastroianni's film career took off in 1949 with leading roles in films opposite Milly Vitale, Lilia Mancini and Gina Lollobrigida. For the next few years he was a young and handsome presence in a stream of Italian films that only occasionally were shown outside the domestic market.

This gave him the experience of working with actors such as Paolo Stoppa, Raf Vallone and, significantly, the prewar matinee idol Vittorio De Sica. The latter became a powerful force in postwar Italian cinema and played Sophia Loren's father in *Pecocato che sia una Canaglia* (1955), the first film on which Mastroianni worked with either of them. Visconti then signed Mastroianni to play the indigent young man who loves the mysterious Maria Schell in *White Nights* (1957), helping him towards his recognition outside Italy.

It was Fellini's *La Dolce Vita*, a three-hour study of the decadent wastrels of the Via Veneto smart set, that propelled Mastroianni to international stardom. Fellini declared that he had hired him because he had "a terribly ordinary face", but it was his face that gave him his appeal, with its weary expression that managed to be simultaneously passive and quizzical.

The box-office success ensured that he was now in huge demand, with film of leading ladies at his disposal: Claudio Cardinale in *Il Bell' Antonio* (1960); Simone Signoret in *Adua e le Compagne* (1960); Jeanne Moreau in Visconti's *Iz Notte* (1961). In *Divorce Italian Style* (1962) he received an Oscar nomination as a down-at-heels count who tries to murder his wife. An impressive hit, it was followed by Louis Malle's *Vie*



Privee (1962) with Brigitte Bardot.

In 1963 he was the lead in Fellini's *8½*, playing an egocentric film director and ringmaster based on Fellini himself. Carlo Ponti then took a hand in Mastroianni's career and more international success followed with the delightful commercial comedies *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* and *Marriage Italian-*

Style (both 1964) which were directed by Vittorio De Sica, with Ponti's wife, Sophia Loren as co-star. Mastroianni was in Visconti's Camus adaptation *The Stranger* (1967) and was under pressure to make an English-speaking film, although he was reluctant to go to Hollywood.

The unremarkable comedy *Diamonds for Breakfast* (1968) was made in England, and

acting style a suited air. He redeemed his popularity with Ettore Scola's black comedy *The Pizza Triangle* (1970). A few years later he would again be nominated for an Academy award for Scola's *A Special Day* (1971).

The best of his later roles included those in Paolo and Vittorio Taviani's *Alfonso and Leopold* (1974); Fellini's *City of Women* (1979); as Casanova in Scola's *La Nuit de Varennes* (1981); as one half of a dancing partnership (with Giulitta Masina) in Fellini's *Ginger and Fred* (1986); and in another Oscar-nominated performance in *Dark Eyes* (1987), which was directed by Nikita Mikhalkov. His aversion to American movies was eventually overcome with Beeban Kidron's *Used People* (1992) in which he appeared opposite Shirley MacLaine.

His penultimate film, *Beyond the Clouds*, directed by Michelangelo Antonioni and Wim Wenders, is due to open in Britain on January 10. Probably the last, piquant memory of him will have is of his appearance last year in Robert Altman's *Frida-Ka-Porter*, looking weary and old but still handsome, and reunited with the still ravishing Sophia Loren. She performs a reprisal of her famous bedroom striptease in *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* while he is reclining on the bed, but by the time she has reached the second stocking he is fast asleep.

For half-a-century Mastroianni was constantly working, and made more than 150 films. Last May he was at the Cannes Film Festival introducing *Three Lives and Only One Death*, directed by Raul Ruiz, in which he played four parts. In the same film was his actress daughter Chiara Mastroianni, born to Catherine Deneuve in 1972.

Mastroianni's command of English was then extremely shaky and he was obliged to recite his lines phonetically, giving his normally relaxed

was followed by a sickly love story with Faye Dunaway, *A Place For Lovers* (1969), a failure for Vittorio De Sica. John Boorman's London film *Leo the Last* (1970) was much more interesting, but no more successful with audiences.

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ARTHUR JACOBS

Arthur Jacobs, music critic, died on December 13 aged 74. He was born on June 14, 1922.

ARTHUR JACOBS was a prolific music critic whose energies embraced journalism, lecturing, teaching, editing, biography and a series of highly regarded singing translations of operas.

Born in Manchester, he was educated at Manchester Grammar School and Merton College, Oxford. He began his career as music critic on the *Daily Express* in 1947, moving on to write for a wide variety of newspapers and journals, including *The Sunday Times*, *The Financial Times* and the *Jewish Chronicle*, always in the brisk, clear style that was to characterise his work.

He was deputy editor of *Opera magazine* from 1961 to 1971, remaining a board member and a valued contributor until his death. From 1964 to 1979 he taught criticism and history at the Royal Academy of Music, before becoming Head of Music at Huddersfield Polytechnic until 1984 (when he was appointed Professor). He also found time to travel widely, acting as a visiting professor in various American, Canadian and Australian universities; latterly, he was several times a visiting fellow of Wolfson College, Oxford.

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His advocacy of opera in English, as representing a genuine dramatic experience for audiences who might otherwise have been kept at a distance, was characteristic and forceful. This sharpness and forcefulness of mind could also take expression in sharpness of tongue, though invariably in what he saw as the interests of accuracy and proper standards of professional conduct; and it could quickly be belied by warmth and a lively sense of humour.

He retired to Oxford, where he took pleasure in renewing membership of his old undergraduate college, Merton. He married, in 1953, Betty Hughes; she and their two sons survive him.

clian (1984). His last biography was a no less scrupulous study, *Sir Henry Wood: Master of the Proms* (1994), in which his thorough research and keen probing enabled him to shed considerable new light on his subject.

Jacobs's devotion to opera found practical expression in the many performing translations he made. His linguistic gifts gave him an appreciation of the flavour of texts in languages that included Russian, and his sometimes quirky relish of word-play



could produce ingenious and witty singling versions, with much theatrical point, of operas by Monteverdi, Rossini, Berio, Chailovsky and Berg, among others. An original fibretti was *One Man Show* for Nicholas Maw (1964).

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At the centre of his scholarly interests was English music, and he helped to deepen serious appreciation of A. S. Sullivan with *Gilbert and Sullivan* (1951) and with a meticulous biography, *Arthur Sullivan: a Victorian Musician* (1964).

design was exploded, equally successfully. It was only half as big, but had twice the yield.

The USSR was second to the atom bomb, but had caught up by the time of the first H-bomb tests. The first Soviet paper on the subject was written by Khariton and colleagues in 1946, but was brushed aside by Stalin and Beria, intent on the atom bomb. By 1949 the mood had changed and Yuri Sakharov was dispatched to Sarov to work with Khariton on an H-bomb design. This was Sakharov's "layer cake" design, involving alternating layers of uranium-238 and deuterium. Khariton was responsible for planning and organising the research needed to prove it would work. When it was successfully tested in October 1953, the USSR could legitimately claim to have the first practical thermonuclear weapon.

Khariton was deeply proud of the achievements of the team under his control, and as an old man could recite them all. His eminence as a scientist and research director largely protected him from Beria's interference, though once he had to intervene on behalf of a colleague, Lev Al'tshuler, who was threatened with exile. Khariton called Beria and said that Al'tshuler was too valuable to lose. Beria paused, then said: "Do you need him very much?" Yes, replied Khariton. Beria paused again, then said "All right", and the incident was closed.

Khariton's wife and daughter predeceased him.

YULI KHARITON

— the Institute of Physics and Technology in Leningrad — before travelling to Cambridge. This was the period when Soviet scientists were allowed abroad, and Khariton took advantage of the liberal climate to study under Ernest Rutherford. He was awarded his PhD in theoretical physics at the Cavendish Laboratory in 1927.

Returning to the Soviet Union through Germany, Khariton was disturbed by the stirrings of Fascism, and at the age of 24 was placed in charge of an explosives laboratory at the Institute of Physical Chemistry, a Fiztech spin-off. When the first report of the discovery of nuclear fission reached the Soviet Union in 1939, Khariton and a younger colleague, Jakov Zeldovich, began working on it. It was not part of their institute's task, so they studied in the evenings. "We immediately made calculations of nuclear chain reactions," Khariton later remembered, "and we soon understood that, on paper at least, a chain reaction was possible, a reaction which could release unlimited amounts of energy without burning coal or oil. Then we took it very seriously. We also understood that a bomb was possible."

Serious Soviet efforts to build a bomb began in 1942, after the first reports of Allied efforts had filtered through. Khariton was put in charge of the Arzamas-16, the secret weapons design laboratory 200 miles to the east. But only on August 20, 1945, after the

Arzamas-16 was built, Khariton was appointed scientific director, and arrived on April 2, 1946, preceded by a detachment of secret policemen who had already staked out a stretch of forest with barbed wire. The town vanished from the maps, becoming the centre of the USSR's nuclear archipelago.

When the moment came to test the first device, Khariton was nervous. "If our first test had failed, you can imagine the pleasures that would have awaited us," he said. The test, however, was a complete success, sending shudders of horror through the West. Khariton acknowledged that the material from Fuchs had brought forward the explosion by two or three years. Two years later, indeed, a bomb was made to the original Soviet



design was exploded, equally successfully. It was only half as big, but had twice the yield.

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THE DEATH OF KING LEOPOLD.

THE BODY TRANSFERRED TO BRUSSELS.

BRUSSELS, DEC 18

The body of the late King was transferred from the Pavillon des Palmiers at Laeken to the Palace at Brussels this evening by the light of torches carried by mounted troopers of a regiment of Guides. The hearse, which was drawn by eight horses, caparisoned in black draperies and harnessed d'au Daumont, was covered with crape, surmounted by black plumes, and bore the national coat of arms and the coats of arms of the nine provinces. The grooms and servants of the late Sovereign surrounded the car. General officer of the army and of the Garde Civique rode on either side, and in Court carriages which followed, decked in heavy mourning trappings, were Prince Albert, Count Jean d'Urbemont, Grand Marshal of the Court, and the dignitaries of the King's Household. As the body was being conveyed to the hearse, salutes were fired by batteries of artillery. An enormous crowd witnessed the scene. The cortège, which was preceded by a detachment of mounted gendarmes and a squadron of Guides in full uniform, moved out of Laeken

ON THIS DAY

December 20, 1909

The present appalling state of affairs in what was formerly the Belgian Congo has its roots in the actions of King Leopold II of the Belgians (1835-1909) who not only plundered and mismanaged a rich territory but

treated the native population

as slaves.

According to the *Gazette*, the lawyer of Princess Louise has given notice to all the principal banks of opposition to any payment of deposit they may have received in the name of King Leopold or Baroness Vaughan, and has forbidden the executors under the late King's will to destroy or handle to Prince Albert. Baron Coffinet is appointed executor.

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THE TIMES TODAY

FRIDAY DECEMBER 20 1996

NEWS

SAS team arrives at Lima siege

■ An SAS team arrived in Lima to join American security experts as the 484 hostages inside the Japanese ambassador's residence settled down for a third night with their 30 heavily armed Tupac Amaru captors.

The team of six from Hereford includes explosives experts and a sniper team commander. Hostage negotiators from Scotland Yard also flew in as talks between the Peruvian Government and the rebels moved slowly. **Pages I, II**

Murder hunt police given more time

■ Magistrates granted police more time to question Robert Friar, a 35-year-old unemployed man who was arrested on Wednesday for questioning over the murders of Lin Russell and her daughter Megan as they walked home from Goodnestone Primary School in Kent. **Page I**

Duke apologises

The Duke of Edinburgh apologised for criticising government plans to ban handguns, saying he had no intention of causing offence or distress and was sorry if he had done so. **Page 2**

Rape ignored

Residents of Chislehurst, south-east London, said they were astonished that rush-hour motorists did not stop to rescue a woman civil servant who was raped and beaten on a busy street. **Page 3**

Oxford victory

Oxford and Cambridge both claimed victory in the four-yearly university research ratings, which will influence the distribution of £700 million of government money. **Pages 4, 17, 43**

Dying breath

The BBC is considering filming the last moments of a dying man or woman for a series charting human life from the cradle to the grave. **Page 5**

Appeal to Mandela

The father of a 28-year-old Briton killed by a traffic police officer in a KwaZulu/Natal coastal resort has written to President Mandela to ask for justice. **Page 6**

Footballer's damages

A former Stockport County footballer was awarded an estimated £250,000 damages in the High Court over a high tackle which ended his career. **Page 7**

China's last imperial eunuch dies

■ Sun Yaoting, China's last surviving imperial eunuch, has died in a Buddhist temple in Peking where he lived out the final years of a life of discrimination and repression. He was 94 and served Pu Yi, China's last emperor, and his first wife after being born into a poor family, castrated at the age of eight and sent to the Forbidden City. **Page 13**



Mother Teresa, 86, leaving hospital in Calcutta yesterday after a heart operation and a month in intensive care. **Page 13**

BUSINESS

Merger bill: Halifax Building Society faces costs of £413 million for merging with the Leeds and floating on the stock market, or £46 for each borrower and saver. **Page 21**

Collapse: Dunn & Co, the menswear retailer specialising in hats and tweed, has collapsed for the second time in six years. KPMG was appointed receiver. **Page 21**

Damages: GKN, the engineering and defence group, faces a damages bill of about \$400 million after an American exhaust subsidiary lost a class action suit. **Page 40**

BB on racism charge Brigitte Bardot was in court over claims that a newspaper article in which she said France was being overrun by sheep-slaughtering Muslims was an incitement to racial hatred. **Page 10**

Gas pipeline plans President Rafsanjani of Iran was greeted with full military honours when he arrived in Turkey for talks about a gas pipeline the two countries are to build. **Page 10**

Simple spymen An American who spied for Moscow was arrested but nowadays spies are less interested in national security secrets than in the enemy's tradecraft. **Page 12**

Barbie campaign The dynamic factory in Thailand, where Barbie dolls are made, is the target of an international campaign to get fairer conditions for workers. **Page 24**

Weather by Fax Dial 0336 followed by area number from your fax. West Country 416 238; Scotland 416 340; North 416 325; London 416 326; Midlands 416 327; East Anglia 416 327; National Seafarers 416 328; N. Sea 416 329; postcode 416 397; Mete Marine 416 299; Inshore leisure forecasts 416 298. **Page 13**

World City Weather Dial 0336 411 216; by Fax (index page) 0336 416 6332. **Page 13**

Motoring Europe Country by Country 0336 401 885; European fuel costs 0336 401 886; French Motorways 0336 401 887; Safety Information 0336 401 888; Discreet Parks 0336 401 889; Le Shuttle 0336 401 895. **Page 13**

AA Car reports by fax new and used car reports from the AA menu of 195 cars. 0336 416 399. **Page 13**

Highest & Lowest Yesterday: Highest day temp: Germany, 12C (54F); lowest Bay area: Bayonne, Aberdeenshire, 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Luton or Cuce, North Yorkshire, 14cm; highest sunshine: Luton, Shropshire, 10hr. **Page 13**

UK Weather - All regions 0336 444 910; UK Roads - All regions 0336 401 410; Inside M25 0336 401 746; M25 and Link Roads 0336 401 747; National Motorways 0336 401 748; Continental Europe 0336 401 910; Countries 0336 401 910; Cities 0336 401 910; Morning on Heathrow & Gatwick airports 0336 407 505. **Page 13**

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